

out but
t almost
to be fit

s tickets
face value

Zealand
ormer 200

r C...

£2.5bn but no new capping powers

Patten wins cabinet battle on poll tax

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS Patten has secured an extra £2.5 billion to hold down poll tax bills next year and won his battle within the cabinet against the introduction of extensive new legislation on the community charge in the run-up to the next election.

The environment secretary has persuaded Margaret Thatcher and John Major that the government's powers to curb council spending are powerful enough to rule out the need for a draconian new bill. This also means that about three-quarters of all local authorities will continue to be exempt from capping because their budgets are below the £15 million qualifying mark.

The extra £2.5 billion in central government grants to local authorities will help cushion next year's rises in bills to change-payers. On top of this, additional money will probably be made available to pay for more generous transitional relief to individuals particularly hard hit by the switch from rates to the community charge.

Environment department sources said yesterday that the internal cabinet wrangling had been "rough" over the past three months, but that the atmosphere had improved in recent days as the outlines of a settlement became clearer.

Their main concern is that the package may be regarded as unsatisfactory by the many

backbench Tory critics of the poll tax who, in the words of one insider, are "just waiting to sink their claws into it".

Mr Patten's package of measures aimed at easing the political pain inflicted on the Conservatives by the introduction of the poll tax in April was approved in principle at a Downing Street meeting yesterday afternoon. The talks, chaired by Mrs Thatcher, lasted nearly two hours. Among the cabinet ministers present were Mr Major and Kenneth Baker, the party chairman.

Mr Patten is now close to obtaining final approval of the full cabinet for his proposals. He is expected to make a Commons statement on his package and the level of revenue support grant to councils the week after next.

Mr Patten has been supported by Mr Baker and Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, in arguing that his existing powers to cap council spending do not need to be strengthened. With the support of Timothy Renton, the government chief whip, they have warned that a capping bill in the next session of parliament would be used by dissident Tory backbenchers as a vehicle for further damaging rebellions over the principles underpinning the community charge. There will probably be a small, tightly drawn piece of legislation dealing with "technical" matters such as the position of caravan owners.

Mrs Thatcher has been determined to find a way of curbing council spending, running at £36.6 billion this year, almost £4 billion above Whitehall targets. She was attracted by the idea of subjecting councils to local referendums if they breach spending ceilings, but has been persuaded to delay such a step, at least until the next Tory manifesto.

The two court rulings upholding Mr Patten's action in capping 21 councils for "excessive" spending this year have proved crucial to the debate within the group of ministers reviewing the community charge. Mr Patten has been able to reassure Mrs Thatcher by pointing to his vindication in the courts as

evidence that the existing legislation will enable him to cap far more widely next year if councils fail to heed ministerial warnings about spending. Only the law lords, who are due to rule on an appeal by the capped councils later this month, can upset these calculations.

The extent of the government's existing capping powers was drummed home last week by Michael Portillo, the local government minister, who said that next year ministers would be able to cap on the basis of year-on-year increases in budgets as well as spending levels judged to be "substantially excessive".

Mrs Thatcher will demand that when Mr Patten makes his statement to MPs, about a week before they rise for the summer recess, he leaves local authorities in no doubt about his determination to take a tough line with high spenders and, if necessary, to cap more councils than the 21 singled out this year.

Environment sources said that the extra cash agreed between Mr Patten and Mr Major at a meeting last week would steer a course midway between backbenchers and council leaders calling for a huge cash injection, and those opposed to throwing money at it. They remain apprehensive about how it will be received by Tory MPs, many of whom are worried that another round of big increases in bills next spring could scupper their chances of holding their seats in a general election later in the year.

It will not be enough to satisfy council leaders, who meet Mr Patten today to press their case for an extra £5-£6 billion. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday that the average poll tax would rise to £501 from £360 this year if government funding remained the same.

Sir Rhodes Boyson, a former junior government minister, said last night that he would oppose Mr Patten's package because it meant a further shift of power to the centre. He said that there must be a bill allowing for local referendums if councils overstep the mark.

Payment survey, page 2

Albania changes to head off revolt

By DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE AND LIBBY JUKES

THE Albanian president, Ramiz Alia, will attempt to head off popular revolution with urgent changes in the country's political and state security leadership, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported yesterday.

The agency said large crowds gathered again yesterday in the centre of Tirana but there were no fresh attempts to breach diplomatic compounds. About 200, many wearing police uniforms, had broken into several embassies scrambling over walls or ramming gates with lorries during two days of unrest.

The West German foreign ministry said that diplomats had seen security forces taking away bodies after the clashes, but could not give a number. On Tuesday night, a bomb exploded inside the Cuban

embassy compound, but caused no injuries. The Albanian news agency, ATA, condemned the attack which occurred after the Cubans and the Egyptian embassy had handed back to the Albanian authorities a number of dissidents who entered their compounds.

Diplomatic sources in Paris believe the Albanian government could soon issue up to 15,000 emigration visas.

The West German embassy, which is sheltering more than 80 refugees, has promised that none will be expelled against their will. Bonn last night sent a chartered civilian plane to Tirana, carrying essential supplies for those sheltering inside its mission, among them a pregnant woman and a baby.

Albania trapped, page 11



Full stretch: West Germany's goalkeeper, Bodo Illgner, making a flying save from Paul Gascoigne as England exerted pressure in Turin last night

Violence opens day of semi-final

From JOHN GOODBODY IN TURIN

ENGLISH football supporters were again involved in violence as tension mounted before the World Cup semi-final against West Germany in Turin yesterday. A German was stabbed and an Englishman suffered slight head injuries after a running fight which was broken up by riot police.

Earlier, Italians had attacked a camp site where more than 3,000 Englishmen were staying, and police fired 20 rounds of tear gas to separate the groups.

At the game itself, an evenly matched first half was characterised by a series of missed chances, but West Germany took the lead after 59 minutes when Brehme's shot from a free kick was deflected past Shilton by Parker.

Despite some obstacles, most commuters had left work early enough to be sitting in front of television sets before the match started (Lin Jenkins writes). AA Roadwatch reported that commuters in the northeast were quickest off the mark, causing jams from around 3.30pm.

Patriotic fervor, page 3
Letters, page 13
Graham Taylor, page 37
World Cup, pages 26, 37, 42



Nato may send envoy to boost Gorbachev

By PETER STOTHARD AND MICHAEL EVANS

THE United States is to ask Nato to send a special envoy to Moscow, to present what it hopes will be the "reassuring" results of the London summit which begins at Lancaster House today.

The summit envoy, who could be Manfred Wörner, Nato secretary general, or possibly a group of Nato foreign ministers, would fly to the Soviet capital on Sunday. The Communist party congress, in which President Gorbachev has been criticised for "losing" Eastern Europe and permitting the resurgence of German power, would not be in progress that day.

If the summit communiqué promises dramatic changes in Nato's structure and emphasises political co-operation with the Soviet Union, it will improve Mr Gorbachev's chances of selling German Nato membership to sceptical Soviet military leaders and party members.

President Bush and the other Nato leaders arrived in London last night to face two

days of what may be fierce debate on the final summit declaration. Disagreements are likely about the role of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and arms control strategies.

American officials believe that Moscow is ready to drop its opposition to a united Germany joining Nato, if the Western allies can agree a plan to make the alliance appear less threatening to the Soviet Union. They argue, however, that a dramatic delivery of the plan may be more significant than adding further concessions. As one official said: "The medium may be as important as the message."

The handing over of "a piece of paper" to Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, would be a potential propaganda coup which would not only help Mr Gorbachev face his critics at home, but would also reassure the West about the prospect of peace and its financial dividends.

Early indications yesterday

suggested, however, that some of the smaller members of Nato want a more substantial change in the alliance's long-standing strategy. One Nato diplomat said: "The US and Britain want to make Nato appear more of a political than a military force. Others want it to be only a political force."

Among the ideas proposed by George Bush is the suggestion that Nato leaders declare the organisation's nuclear weapons as armaments of the "last resort". He hopes this will be interpreted in Moscow as a reassuring change in nuclear doctrine, although it will maintain the American position that a "mix" of nuclear and conventional forces is still essential to Western security.

There have also been suggestions that Nato should guarantee a reduction in its forces along the frontier with Eastern Europe.

Rift on future role, page 10
Soviet congress, page 11
Leading article, page 13

Hospitals apply for trust status

By PHILIP WEBSTER

TWELVE health service units, including Europe's largest teaching hospital, have applied to become self-governing in the five days since the government's reforms became law, Kenneth Clarke said yesterday.

The health secretary announced in the Commons that a further 25 had promised early applications. The requests received so far include St James's University Hospital, Leeds, the largest teaching hospital in Europe, the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.

Mr Clarke said applications had also been received from Bradford acute services; Leeds General Infirmary and associated hospitals; Central Middlesex and North Middlesex hospitals; Southend district services; Crewe acute services; Liverpool regional adult cardio-thoracic unit; East Gloucestershire services; and the Mid-Surrey general unit.

Bart's decision, page 7

Thatcher-Mandela meeting 'cordial'

By ANDREW MCEWEN AND MICHAEL KNIFE

NELSON Mandela acknowledged yesterday that Margaret Thatcher was sincere in opposing apartheid even if they disagreed over the best way to end it.

After three hours with the prime minister at Downing Street, the deputy president of the African National Congress told journalists: "There is no doubt that she is an enemy of apartheid... we have our differences in the methods of dismantling (it)."

Neither Mrs Thatcher nor Mr Mandela gave ground on the key issues of sanctions against Pretoria and the ANC's continued use of violence, but both appeared to be playing down the importance of their differences.

Whitehall sources said the differences between the two were not important, and that

the main object was to get rid of apartheid. The two leaders had had a very good exchange of views and agreed to keep in touch and to build on the rapport they had established.

Mrs Thatcher reported that, as Mr Mandela left, he had told her: "I hope a time will come when Mr de Klerk (the South African president) and myself can see you together."

Mr Mandela left Mrs Thatcher in no doubt that he wanted peace and a negotiated outcome in South Africa. For her part the prime minister emphasised the importance of flexibility in the management of the South African economy and the need to encourage the

Continued on page 22, col 5

Pressure over Natal, page 10
Speech to CBI, page 23
City comment, page 25

Soviet troops storm Bundesbank for marks

From ANNE MCELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

A DOZEN sirens screamed, 30 officers dismounted from military buses brandishing their Kalashnikovs and a cavalcade of police and Soviet army vehicles with lights flashing sped through the heart of East Berlin. The soldiers had business at the bank.

Two officers presented their credentials at the Bundesbank's new East Berlin headquarters yesterday and announced to the cashier: "We would like to cash a cheque." They then picked up what a Bundesbank spokesman would confirm only as a "two-figure million-mark sum" to pay the Soviet army's 360,000 troops stationed in East Germany their first allowance in German marks.

The money was withdrawn from the East German state budget after an

agreement last week that East Berlin would supply the soldiers' living allowance in hard currency in return for raw materials from the Soviet Union. The deal which effectively means a preferential exchange rate for the Soviet Union is worth 1.24 billion marks (£428 million) and was reached after Moscow said that it was unable to meet the cost of supporting its troops after currency union with the West.

The Bundesbank has moved into the former Communist party headquarters and now bears the incongruous address Marx-Engels Platz on its headed notepaper. Until 1945 the building housed the Reichsbank, the financial centre of the Nazi regime. The four-storey vaults are now being used to store German marks.

A spokesman for the bank said that

the Soviet army "simply turned up with a cheque for the amount", probably enough to cover payments for a month. "They obviously took the security aspect very seriously indeed, although I don't think anyone here would mess with them."

Soviet soldiers stationed for two years in East Germany received a meagre allowance of between 15 and 25 old marks monthly but were still envied because they had access to the wider range of goods available in East German shops than at home.

The amount has remained the same in German marks to the chagrin of the troops. The army newspaper, *Krasnaya Svedna*, commented yesterday that the changeover did not mean "paradise" ahead for the soldiers as prices for basic goods, including the popular East German

beer, have doubled since the disappearance of the old currency on Sunday.

Jobless protests: Thousands of East German workers, alarmed by soaring unemployment, staged wildcat strikes all over the country yesterday to back demands for more pay, job security and shorter working hours (Reuter reports).

The walkouts, which in many areas turned into protest marches, coincided with labour ministry data showing 142,000 jobless in June, a rise of 47,000 or almost 50 per cent over the previous month. Economists believe up to two million of the country's nine million workers will be unemployed by January.

Election date agreed, page 10
Unemployment fears, page 23

INDEX	
Arts	18-20
Births, marriages, deaths	15
Books	17
Court & Social	14
Health	16
Law Report	38
Leading articles	13
Obituary	14
Parliament	8
Science & Technology	31-34
Sport	36-42
TV & Radio	21
Weather	22

THERE
IS ONLY ONE
WATCH
SALE.

DAVID MORRIS
JEWELS

IS OFFERING
UP TO 50% DISCOUNT

on selected models of Piaget, Baume & Mercier, Audemars Piguet and Vacheron Constantin watches.

AND BIG REDUCTIONS ON
CONCORD WATCHES

(e.g. Gent's steel and yellow metal
£1,496 down to £748,
also Lady's models available).

During Harrods Sale, until
Saturday 28th July in the
David Morris Room, Ground Floor.
Tel: 071-730 1234. Ext: 2551

All reductions are from Harrods Usual Prices.

Harrods
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Telephone 071-730 1234

Ulster discord over aims as Brooke draws up progress report



Brooke: his room for manoeuvre restricted

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AS PETER Brooke, the Northern Ireland Secretary, prepares to brief the Commons today on the progress in initiating talks in Ulster, there are ominous signs of conceptual differences between the parties on what those talks might discuss.

Mr Brooke is expected to offer a general outline of the advance he has made and give some indication of how the process will develop over the coming months when he opens the renewal debate on direct rule for Northern Ireland.

His comments and room for manoeuvre will be restricted by unresolved differences with the Irish government over guarantees of its precise role in

Mr Brooke's plan for three sets of simultaneous talks. Intensive contacts between British and Irish officials and between Mr Brooke and Gerard Collins, the Irish foreign minister, have failed to reconcile the unionist position that Dublin can have no direct input in the process until after agreement is reached between the parties in the province, with the Irish determination to play a direct role in those negotiations.

The "Brooke initiative" is based on an approach to the Irish question which deals with three sets of relationships. It involves talks during a two-month pre-arranged gap in meetings of the Anglo-Irish conference between the parties in Northern Ireland on devolution, between London and Dublin on the Anglo-Irish

dimension, and between Dublin and Ulster politicians on north-south aspects.

Originally, today's debate had been envisaged as an opportunity for Mr Brooke to make a formal statement bringing to a close the opening phase and giving way to a period of bilateral exchanges before the talks start, possibly as early as September. Continuing problems with Dublin, however, have thwarted him and called into question for the first time in the process the Northern Ireland Office's handling of its presentation. Mr Brooke has always said he does not want to be trampled by deadlines.

More worrying are the emerging signs of the possibly unbridgeable gulf in approach between unionists and nation-

alists on what talks might eventually discuss in the key areas of devolution, power sharing and the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Recent utterances by unionist leaders underline that the two groups are approaching the talks with markedly different objectives, and help to explain why sceptics continue to characterise the Irish government's approach and, to a lesser extent, that of the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

Unionists are now talking of an "integrationist solution" to the talks which would be anathema to the SDLP and to Dublin. James Moynihan, the Ulster Unionist party leader and a committed integrationist, made clear this week that he envisages only

limited devolution for the province, possibly in the form of a regional council modelled on proposals put forward by the late Airey Neave in 1979. The SDLP, although somewhat incoherent until now on what it really wants, would be looking for something far more substantive, if not full legislative devolution.

Mr Moynihan is also expected to concentrate, as a primary objective, on re-drafting the Anglo-Irish agreement in a way that would consolidate Ulster's position within the United Kingdom and repair the damage, as he sees it, inflicted by the present treaty.

There is no sign that Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, has made any progress towards contemplating effective power sharing

with the Roman Catholic population, despite the fact that it would be impossible for the SDLP to contemplate a new administration in Belfast of whatever sort, which did not address that problem.

The prospect for constructive talks with Dublin looked doubtful with unionists again calling for articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution which embody the republic's constitutional claim over Northern Ireland to be scrapped.

In each case, however, Mr Moynihan in particular may be doing little more than laying down his opening position. Surprising concessions by him and Mr Paisley on pre-conditions over the suspension of the agreement in recent months have shown a greater

flexibility in the unionist camp than had previously been thought possible.

The Brooke process, which began in earnest in January when he indicated he believed there was enough "common ground" between the parties to begin talks on devolution, continues to baffle political analysts who are still grasping for an explanation for its success until now.

While most remain very cautious about its chances of ultimately producing consensus on a new government for the province and a new agreement in parallel with it, everyone now recognises that enough momentum has been created to force each of the constituencies to "think hard" about being the first to back out.

TONY WHITE

Times poll tax survey

Boycott campaign fails as three in four people pay up

By DOUGLAS BROOM AND ELAINE FOGG

ATTEMPTS to organise a large-scale boycott of the community charge in England appear to have failed, with more than three quarters paying the charge.

A random survey of 38 districts, metropolitan and London councils conducted by *The Times* found that an average of 75.8 per cent of eligible adults had made at least some payment towards their poll tax bills.

The survey was conducted on the eve of today's meeting in London between leaders of the local government associations and ministers at the environment department to discuss council spending for next year.

On the local government side there is all-party agreement that the government must provide an extra £4 billion in central grant to councils next year to prevent a steep rise in poll tax bills. Chris Patten, the environment secretary, is believed to have secured slightly less than £3 billion from the treasury.

The Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities said that for every £1 billion that grant fell short of its £4 billion target, poll tax bills would rise by £28 a head. Collection levels, which have been badly hit in some areas by serious computer problems, are better than many feared.

The mood among town hall

treasurers interviewed by *The Times* was generally cautiously optimistic, with many believing that the issuing of formal reminders over the next few weeks would prompt a large number of non-payers to pay up.

Most expressed the view that a large percentage of those who had yet to pay their poll tax were waiting for the final reminder in the same way that many people did not pay telephone bills until they were sent a final demand.

Many admitted that their billing systems had got off to a slow start and a majority said they were reluctant to go to court to enforce bills after a series of spectacularly unsuccessful attempts to summons charge payers in the courts.

In Newcastle upon Tyne John Wilcox, the city treasurer, has recouped 16 per cent of the metropolitan council's debt to date. In his authority only 30 per cent of those registered have failed to pay anything.

"We are just about to send out reminders. I expect the next set of figures I will receive to be an improvement. And as we begin to turn the screws our cash flow will be even better," he said.

In West Devon, controlled by independents, Mike Stephens, treasurer, said that of the hundreds of calls of complaint his department had

received, most had concerned the high amounts people had to pay rather than the concept of the poll tax.

"In the southwest, charges for holiday homes have caused a lot of consternation and anger," he said.

Despite fairly optimistic collection rates, many authorities felt that if poll tax deficiencies continued throughout the year at the same rate, it would sow financial problems for the coming year.

"It would be a matter of concern for us if we continued at these financial levels throughout the year," Reba Smith, chief revenues officer for Dudley metropolitan council, said.

"Although 85 per cent of people have paid something for the first two months, we could end up with a situation next year where people have to pay £61 extra on their bills," she said.

Labour-controlled Liverpool has yet to collate its poll tax returns as many people in the Merseyside authority have just received bills which were held up at the printers.

A spokesman said, however, it was a possibility from estimated figures that more than 130,000 court summonses would have to be issued in the metropolitan area.

Where councils have taken a tough line to recover the poll tax, high returns have ensued. Bournemouth district council in Dorset has already obtained 2,574 liability orders from magistrates to set 5 per cent of the register still to pay the new tax.

"Those who have not paid will have to complete means questionnaires. If they then subsequently break payment agreements with us we will go ahead and enforce the liability orders," Margaret Chadwick, Bournemouth's assistant treasurer, said.

Other councils have decided to opt for a more softly spoken approach. The London borough of Barnet, which contains Mrs Thatcher's Finchley constituency, has said it has "positively decided" not to pursue any summonses yet. Rather than do this, it has opted to give the electorate a chance to get up to date.

Calderdale, which has been charge-capped despite having one of the lowest poll tax levels in England, said it was pleased with its 69 per cent collection rate, which was achieved despite the fact that many payers were adopting a "wait and see" approach to the council's legal challenge to capping.

In Alnwick, where a third of poll tax payers are also council tenants, a unique fortnightly joint rent and poll tax collection system was credited with leading to the 86 per cent collection rate.

symbol in the margin. London, although not legally forced to, followed suit, and a tiny circle can be seen beside the entry for the Hoffmann painting, which was given a separate glossy catalogue.

The painting, which was described yesterday by Mr Julien Stock of Sotheby's as extremely important, made its entry into the art world seven years ago, in classic "discovery" circumstances.

It was found in the attic of a house in Yorkshire, having been given as a wedding present to a couple living there. Scholars identified it as the only known animal painting by Hans Hoffmann, court artist of the Emperor Rudolf II (1552-1612) of Prague.

Heavily obscured by dirt, it sold for £407,000 at Sotheby's in 1983 and was this week being offered in a clear state. A spokesman said "this could be the most expensive painting the company will have to pay a guarantee on."

Mr Stock said: "It is difficult to sell pictures for over £1 million. A lot of museums don't have much money at the moment."

This has been a bad week for Sotheby's, which has been dragged into New Scotland Yard's investigation into the Sevso silver hoard.

Apart from the Hoffmann, the Old Master sale went well. There was a record for the Spanish artist de Ribera, at £2.75 million (estimate £2.5 million to £3.5 million), bought by Agnews for a client, thought to be the National Gallery in Washington.



Police officers see the funny side of a demonstration in London yesterday as about 200 pensioners chained themselves across Westminster bridge as part of a protest about low pensions. Police had to remove the pensioners from the roadway outside the Houses of Parliament after they padlocked one end of a chain to railings and pulled it across the road causing a traffic jam (Ray Chaney writes). There were no arrests and the pensioners from around the country went on to a meeting at Central Hall, where speakers called for a minimum pension of £100 a week. "It was all very good natured. They formed a human chain across the road but were happy to leave away when asked to do so by officers," Scotland Yard's Harry Clark, chairman of the Pensioners Rights Campaign, who travelled from Carlisle, Cumbria, said they

had wanted to make an impact. "We are not prepared to be treated any more," John Hendry, aged 68, of Horsham, Essex, said. It was said that pensioners in Britain received an average of £84.00, yet in other European countries the average was £96 a week.

Police officers see the funny side of a demonstration in London yesterday as about 200 pensioners chained themselves across Westminster bridge as part of a protest about low pensions. Police had to remove the pensioners from the roadway outside the Houses of Parliament after they padlocked one end of a chain to railings and pulled it across the road causing a traffic jam (Ray Chaney writes). There were no arrests and the pensioners from around the country went on to a meeting at Central Hall, where speakers called for a minimum pension of £100 a week. "It was all very good natured. They formed a human chain across the road but were happy to leave away when asked to do so by officers," Scotland Yard's Harry Clark, chairman of the Pensioners Rights Campaign, who travelled from Carlisle, Cumbria, said they

had wanted to make an impact. "We are not prepared to be treated any more," John Hendry, aged 68, of Horsham, Essex, said. It was said that pensioners in Britain received an average of £84.00, yet in other European countries the average was £96 a week.

Police officers see the funny side of a demonstration in London yesterday as about 200 pensioners chained themselves across Westminster bridge as part of a protest about low pensions. Police had to remove the pensioners from the roadway outside the Houses of Parliament after they padlocked one end of a chain to railings and pulled it across the road causing a traffic jam (Ray Chaney writes). There were no arrests and the pensioners from around the country went on to a meeting at Central Hall, where speakers called for a minimum pension of £100 a week. "It was all very good natured. They formed a human chain across the road but were happy to leave away when asked to do so by officers," Scotland Yard's Harry Clark, chairman of the Pensioners Rights Campaign, who travelled from Carlisle, Cumbria, said they

Registrar takes action on credit reference firms

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE four big credit reference agencies are facing legal proceedings by the Data Protection Registrar to force them to take steps to end the passing on to lenders of information on third parties.

Eric Howe, the registrar, has been increasingly concerned about the practice, which he said yesterday had been estimated to "disadvantage some 100,000 people seeking credit a year" because wrong information was supplied about them.

His office has issued preliminary notices, the first step in the use of its statutory enforcement powers, to four main credit reference agencies, CCN Systems, InfoLink, Westcott Data and Credit and Data Marketing Services.

The move comes about after some two years of discussion. "They take one view of the law, but we take another," he said. "I believe this is a breach of the act. We have tried to sort out the matter in discussion, but clearly we are not going to solve it."

The notices warn the agencies of pending enforcement action under the Data Protection Act 1984. They can appeal, but if they ultimately lose they must comply with the notice or face being struck off the Data Protection register.

At present when a lender asks agencies for information on an individual who wants credit, the agencies search

some of their files on the basis of the current or old addresses quoted by the applicant, and even in some cases on similar addresses.

The result is that a lender may receive from the credit agency not only information about the credit records of all members of an applicant's current household, but also similar information about the occupants of the first and second previous addresses at which the applicant has lived.

"Such information about other individuals occupying these previous addresses will be supplied irrespective of whether those individuals lived at that address at the same time as the applicant or not," the registrar's office said. Alternatively, or even in addition, the lender may receive credit records of others in the neighbourhood.

Elizabeth Stanton, of the credit industry forum on data protection, defended the practice, saying that credit agencies did not believe that the use of information on third parties was a breach of the law. "Our view is that it is of some weight when assessing the probability of a person's repaying a loan."

However, she said the agencies were taking steps to stop using information about third parties who had lived at the applicant's address but at a different time. "We are doing this to redress the balance."

Ethnic minority now 2.58m

By PAUL WILKINSON

BRITAIN'S ethnic minority community is now 2.58 million, or just short of 5 per cent of the country's population, according to the latest figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

The survey of the years from 1981 to 1988 indicates that the minority population is increasing at more than 80,000 a year. It shows a significant increase in the numbers of Asians. The Bangladeshi community has increased from 52,000 in 1981 to 91,000 in 1988. Over the same period the Pakistani population increased from 284,000 to 479,000 and the number of Indians increased marginally from 727,000 to 814,000.

The three races represent 51 per cent of the total ethnic minorities in the country. Nineteen per cent are West Indian and 5 per cent Chinese and 11 per cent (one in nine) are of mixed origin.

One cause of the increase is the rise in immigration levels, now running at an annual net rate of 17 per thousand population. Another factor is that among the Asian community, children represent a larger-than-average proportion. Lower child mortality rates throughout the population have therefore led to an increase in the ethnic minority community in proportion to the overall population.

Population Trends: Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (Stationery Office, £6.75)

Saunders 'would have run a mile' at illegality hint

ERNEST Saunders, the former Guinness chairman, yesterday said he would have run a mile rather than risk breaking the law in the company's bid for Distillers.

He denied he was aware of speculation at the time of the £2.7 billion offer in 1986 that a merger agreement between the brewing group and the Scottish whisky company risked breaching the Companies Act.

Giving evidence at Southwark Crown Court for the sixteenth day in the twelfth week of the trial, Mr Saunders said he was not aware of newspaper reports questioning the deal under which Distillers agreed to pay Guinness takeover costs should the bid fail.

Mr Saunders, aged 55, Sir Jack Lyons, aged 74, the financier, Anthony Parnes, aged 45, a stockbroker, and Gerald Ronson, aged 50, of the Heron Corporation, deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

John Chadwick, QC, for the prosecution, showed Mr Saunders articles from the first two weeks of the bid that referred to criminal proceedings and said it was inconceivable he had not seen them. Mr Saunders said he had scratched his brain and could not remember. "I cannot recall saying to any of my colleagues, 'Hang on a bit, these people are talking about criminal matters'. That would have

been one's reaction, I cannot recall that reaction."

He denied Guinness lawyers had explained the pitfalls of the Companies Act or drawn his attention to adverse publicity.

He said he left legal matters to his advisers and did not become involved in questions of the law himself. It was inconceivable to read he may go to jail and not do anything about it. "I would have run a mile."

The trial continues today.

Overtime ban closes railways

Northern Ireland Railways yesterday shut down its entire network and laid off 500 staff as a three-day overtime dispute worsened (Edward Gorman writes). Roy Beattie, the chief executive, said that an overtime ban by workers had made it impractical and uneconomical to continue operating rail services.

The dispute centres on pay compatibility with British Rail employees.

There are hopes of progress when management and unions attend separate meetings with the Northern Ireland labour relations agency today. More than 60 employees have been dismissed and services disrupted.

Welsh bomb

A letter bomb was received yesterday by Tim Alexander, an English hotel owner in Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceirion in Ceredigion, which was similar to six sent recently to David Huat, the Welsh secretary, two other MPs, and English-run businesses in Wales.

GP suspended

Dr Sudhir Mishra, who admitted spending only "five or six minutes" with a patient who died from meningitis within four hours of his visit, was suspended from practising for 12 months by the General Medical Council yesterday. He had allegedly diagnosed a stomach upset.

Top museums

The National Heritage Museum of the Year Awards, sponsored by British Gas, have been won jointly for only the second time. Winners were the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry and the Imperial War Museum.

Leading article, page 13 Arts, page 18

Bill for Sotheby's after Hoffmann fails at £1m

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

SOTHEBY'S was left with egg on its face, and a large bill, yesterday when their main Old Master painting, "The Hare in the Forest", by Hans Hoffmann, the Prague court artist, failed to sell when bids stopped at £1 million. The painting, which was estimated at £2 million to £3 million, was guaranteed.

Whatever happened in the sale, the auction house had undertaken to pay the anonymous vendor an agreed price. Probably just below the estimate, it could be the largest single amount the auction house has had to pay out to date. It follows a number of failed guaranteed sales at the London Impressionist sales last week, taking the total well beyond £1 million.

The practice of giving guarantees was first established by Sotheby's in the New York

Impressionist market. It was greeted with uproar by the dealing fraternity, who suggested that it indicated a manipulation of prices.

After recent changes in regulations in New York, auctioneers are required to specify the guaranteed lots in their catalogues by means of a

symbol in the margin. London, although not legally forced to, followed suit, and a tiny circle can be seen beside the entry for the Hoffmann painting, which was given a separate glossy catalogue.

The painting, which was described yesterday by Mr Julien Stock of Sotheby's as extremely important, made its entry into the art world seven years ago, in classic "discovery" circumstances.

It was found in the attic of a house in Yorkshire, having been given as a wedding present to a couple living there. Scholars identified it as the only known animal painting by Hans Hoffmann, court artist of the Emperor Rudolf II (1552-1612) of Prague.

Heavily obscured by dirt, it sold for £407,000 at Sotheby's in 1983 and was this week being offered in a clear state. A spokesman said "this could be the most expensive painting the company will have to pay a guarantee on."

Mr Stock said: "It is difficult to sell pictures for over £1 million. A lot of museums don't have much money at the moment."

Lost Keir Hardie painting found

A PAINTING showing Keir Hardie at Westminster, lost for many years after it was painted in 1909, has been found at a country house in Scotland and acquired by the House of Commons Gallery (John Shaw writes).

Hardie (1856-1915), one of the most celebrated figures in the socialist movement and one of the founders of the Labour party, is seen with a number of other MPs on the terrace of the Commons. The picture was commissioned by Sir Norman Lamont, Liberal MP for Bute between 1905-10, from Milly Childers, an Edwardian artist, for £75.

On The Terrace was hanging at Knockdow, ancestral home of the Lamont family near

Dunoon, Strathclyde. It was rediscovered by experts from Phillips the auctioneers as they cleared the house for a three-day sale of contents in Glasgow.

Officials at the Commons knew of the painting's existence from prints, but only realised that it had been found when Phillips rang them to try to identify the other MPs. The auction house arranged a private treaty sale for an undisclosed price. Mr Malcolm Hay, chairman of works of art at the Palace of Westminster, said: "The whereabouts of the original has remained a mystery which is why I was so excited when Phillips contacted me. It is an important acquisition for the collection."

مكزامن الاحمدي

Graduates face job competition as vacancies fall 12%

By TOM GILES

GRADUATES face increased competition for fewer jobs after a big fall in the number of vacancies being offered by employers since last November, it was disclosed yesterday.

In its twice-yearly survey of graduate vacancies and salaries, the Association of Graduate Recruiters said interest rates and signs of a slowing economy had resulted in employers reducing their graduate vacancies by 12 per cent from last November to May this year. Over the same period last year the number of vacancies rose by 8.5 per cent.

The survey, which was carried out for the association among 326 graduates employers by the Institute of Manpower Studies, concluded:

"This represents a dramatic downturn in expected demand. After several years of consistently high growth, the graduate labour market has slackened considerably."

Fifty per cent of employers surveyed had reduced their graduate requirements, compared with 39 per cent in the previous year. The drop was most marked in the industrial sector, where 13 per cent of companies had cut graduate vacancies. As a result, the number who predicted difficulties in recruiting students had dropped from 64 to 42 per cent, the biggest shift recorded in the graduate market since the association's surveys began 15 years ago.

Speaking at the association's annual conference in

York yesterday, Helen Perkins, its chairman, said: "Undoubtedly the survey results show a significant change and the scale of the change is dramatic compared to any previous year."

"Clearly part of the downturn in demand is the result of employers coming to terms with previous shortfalls and taking a realistic view about real graduate needs. This must be a trend likely to continue beyond any 'blip' in the economic climate."

While describing the survey as a "fair indicator" of recruitment patterns in the next six months, Miss Perkins issued a warning against predicting any long-term decline in demand. However, she added that the short-term downturn might still make private employers less willing to provide funds for universities and polytechnics.

In all disciplines other than engineering and applied sciences, graduates were told that the downturn in demand would make job-hunting more difficult.

The association, which is Britain's largest recruitment advisory body and has 500 member companies, said arts and social science graduates were especially vulnerable. It added that students in these subjects could be forced to apply for "lesser jobs than they would have expected in previous years."

Despite these general trends, the report said 60 per cent of industrial employers still had difficulty recruiting graduate engineers or scientists. Miss Perkins said a lack of student interest in such courses had created a "chronic undersupply" of graduates.

The survey also found that starting salaries for graduates had kept pace with earnings. The average starting salary for a graduate aged 21 with a second-class honours degree was expected to be £11,375, an increase of about 10 per cent on 1989. The average salary within industry was slightly higher at £11,500.

The education department said a survey of 2,000 firms by the Policy Studies Institute, which was published in April, showed that despite short-term downturns, demand for graduates would still not be met by 1992.

"The number of students in higher and further education is expected to rise by 19 per cent between 1988 and 1992. The PSI survey, we commissioned, showed that company demand would be for a 22 per cent increase in graduate numbers. The arrival of the single European market will ensure that the demand for graduates will increase in the long term."

GCSE and A-level should be ended, policy body says

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

GCSEs, A-levels and all other training awards should be scrapped and replaced by a British baccalaureate, a left-wing think tank said yesterday.

The Institute for Public Policy Research said one of the reasons for Britain's comparatively few students staying on after 16 was the division between academic and vocational courses and confusion between the Department of Education and Science and the Department of Employment.

The institute said: "It divides academic pupils from the rest through the different institutions... and, above all, different qualifications which cater for the two groups. Our qualifications system resembles an obstacle course and is designed to weed out the majority of pupils."

A-levels, the institute said, were seen as too narrow, specialised and old-fashioned. The new advanced diploma would be administered by a new Department of Education and Training and would probably be taught in colleges of further education. It would be preceded by a foundation stage for 14 to 17-year-olds that would gradually take over from GCSEs.

The report rejected raising the compulsory school-leaving age to 18 but said it would expect staying-on rates to rise by about 85 per cent when the scheme was in full operation, increasing the number of 16- to 18-year-olds from 380,000 to 830,000 by the end of the decade. The researchers esti-

mated the scheme would cost £100 million in the first year, rising to £500 million by the fifth year. As participation rates rose a capital investment of £1 billion over ten years might be required. "Although the costs are high, we cannot afford not to incur this expenditure," the institute said.

It was also time to question the need for a school-leaving examination at 16, the report said. It recommended that such an examination be replaced by an assessment at 16 to help students to decide on the courses they would wish to follow.

The institute accepted that by the age of 16 many pupils were "school-weary" and further education and training should take place in tertiary colleges, although sixth forms would remain in some schools for some years. The advanced diploma would cover three broad areas, social and human sciences, natural sciences and technology and arts, languages and literature.

Political education in schools should not be propaganda but allow children to learn how to make judgments about public affairs, Alan Howarth, junior education minister, said yesterday.

Mr Howarth told the 21st anniversary meeting of the Politics Association at Westminster: "I see political education in schools rather as a preparatory activity offering information and criteria against which to judge it, helping young people learn how to come to a point of view and defend it cogently."

Labour move on disabled

UNIVERSITIES and polytechnics would be required to develop programmes of provision for disabled students under Labour party proposals published yesterday (Philip Webster writes). Part of the grant made by the universities and polytechnics funding council would be specially allocated to institutions providing for the disabled, and capital grants would be made to adapt buildings and equipment.

The plans were contained in a consultation paper published with a Labour survey showing, according to Andrew Smith, the party's higher education spokesman, that provision for students with disabilities is variable, incomplete and in need of substantial improvement.

Of the 476,000 students responding, only 1,450 had disabilities. Some 83 per cent of institutions said they did not have resources to provide adequately for students with disabilities.

Labour's proposals contain a charter of rights for students with disabilities. Its approach would be based on a partnership between the education department, the funding council and the institutions in consultation with students.

Wombles composer aids music syllabus

THE Wombles of Wimbledon Common, tubby characters on children's television programmes, are coming to the aid of school music teachers (David Tyler writes).

Uncle Bulgaria from the Wombles and Hazel, leader of a group of hard-pressed rabbits living on Watership Down, are being called in by John MacGregor, the education secretary. Yesterday he set up his music working party to decide what should be taught in the National Curriculum. All children will be offered the chance of learning an instrument from the recorder to the cathedral organ.

Members of the music party include Sir John



Batt: rabbit inspiration for school music classes

Maundell, principal of the Royal Northern College of Music, and Mike Batt, popular musician and entrepreneur. He wrote the signature tunes for the television series *The Wombles*, and "Bright Eyes" for the film of *Richard Adams's Watership Down*, the epic story of a group of rabbits who were forced to find a new warren because of building development.

Salford College of Technology, Greater Manchester, launched a BA (Hons) course in pop music yesterday (Ronald Faux writes). The course was inaugurated with the support of George Martin, who produced many Beatles' numbers, and a goodwill message from Paul McCartney.

The college claims it to be the first of its kind in the world to give such serious concentration to the art and technology of composing, performing and producing popular music.

The first 30 students, aged between 18 and 30, have been chosen and begin their studies in September. More than 150 applied.

Mr Martin said: "A lot of people look askance at popular music but it is a huge industry which should be improved all the time."



A spectator huddles under an umbrella as the weather dampens the opening day at Henley Royal Regatta yesterday. In the stewards' enclosure, eagle-eyed spies were on patrol with orders to throw businessmen out if they dared to use

mobile telephones. "We have certain standards to maintain at Henley and this is not something we will tolerate," George Lawson, a regatta spokesman, said as the annual event got under way. "If we don't nip this sort of thing in the bud now, we will

have 150 people constantly chattering away on these phones in the enclosure in five years' time," he said. Mr Lawson said the ruling had been introduced after discussions among committee members, who feared it would lower standards.

"Standards in the stewards' enclosure are purely social in all respects — that means no press, TV or reporters. Therefore, people using the enclosure for business are really out of character with the aims of the enclosure," he said.

Patriotic football fervour surges through pubs, clubs and traffic jams

By RAY CLANCY

MICK Jagger was strutting at Wembley, Frank Sinatra was crooning at the London Arena and *Coronation Street* fans were waiting for the end of the match when Bobby Robson's team was on the pitch in Turin last night.

Business was brisk in public houses all over Britain as supporters flocked to watch the big match in an attempt to create the World Cup atmosphere outside Italy. Police forces drew up contingency plans to deal with any trouble after the game. In Northamp-

ton, where 400 youths gathered in the city centre and looted shops after England's match with Cameroon last Sunday, the police liaised with publicans and in Essex extra officers were drafted in.

Leicester police asked publicans not to show the match in an attempt to forestall violence. The Licensed Victuallers Association said it was up to individual landlords to decide whether or not to show the match.

Thousands of other supporters took crates of beer home

and telephoned for take-away meals so that cooking would not interrupt their concentration on England's most important match since the 1966 finals.

Pizza Hut, with outlets in London and Yorkshire, said it was expecting home deliveries to rise by 100 per cent and take-aways from restaurants by 30 per cent. Chinese and Indian take-away restaurants were also expecting increased trade.

A new television set was delivered to the Needles light-house in the Solent off the Isle of Wight after the rented set used by the three keepers broke down.

A 2,000 megawatt power surge, enough electricity to power four cities the size of Liverpool, came at half time when millions of people switched on kettles for cups of tea, or lights as they went to use the lavatory.

Electricity suppliers said this compared with a 2,000 megawatt surge during the other semi-final match between Italy and Argentina. The highest surge to date was 3,000 megawatts after the last episode of the *Thorn Birds* television mini series in January 1984.

Mick Jagger was expected to shout out the result at the Rolling Stones concert. "There were televisions and radios backstage so the band

and the crew were kept up-to-date with the score," a Wembley spokesman said.

The rush hour began early as office workers left plenty of time to get home for the 7pm kick off. People on flexi-time left as early as they could, then the mad dash began at 5.30pm. Delays were made worse by the rainy weather.

Rolls Royce workers in Derby were allowed to alter their shifts for the big match. "It was a great idea and certainly prevented widespread absenteeism," a union spokesman said.

Granada Television, which produces the soap opera *Coronation Street*, said there were complaints about the programme being shown after the match last night. The latest figures for the ITV network show the World Cup has been attracting 11.5 million viewers and *Coronation Street* 16.5 million.

At 6.30pm sport was featured on all four television channels — the World Cup on BBC1 and ITV, Wimbledon on BBC 2 and the Tour de France on Channel Four.

An Italian man lost the chance of winning almost £250,000 when his team was knocked out of the World Cup by Argentina but still collected more than £25,000 from his £200 stake placed last November with William Hill, the bookmakers.

Rain fails to put tennis back

By MARK SOUSTER

IN SPITE of rain which caused a four-hour delay at Wimbledon yesterday, officials said the schedule would not be disrupted.

Alan Mills, the tournament referee, said that as far as the championship events were concerned "we are only six matches behind the perfect schedule."

By last Thursday, a record 258 matches had been completed, the most since records began. Mr Mills said: "This time last year we were at least 30 matches behind schedule. If we had to have rain we would prefer that it was in the middle of the tournament."

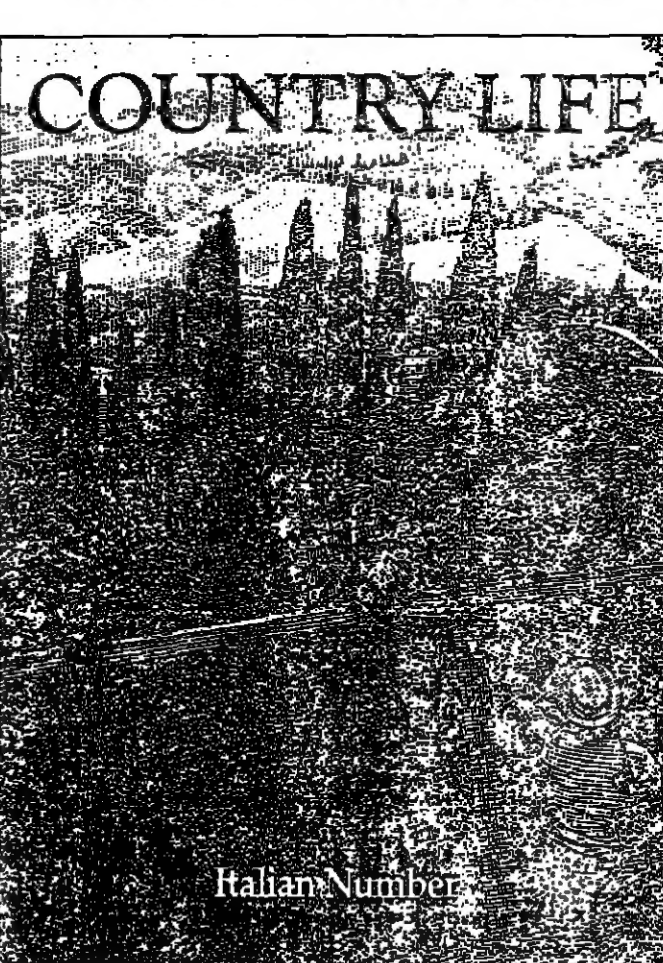
The demands of the new Safety at Sports Grounds Act and the World Cup in Italy have meant that attendances at this year's championships are down by at least 40,000.

An official said: "Of course we are disappointed by this — particularly since on several days the gates have not closed at all, so we had tickets to sell but no queue to sell them to. As in previous years, however, everyone who has queued has got in, even though on the first four days the gates have closed at the 28,000 capacity."

"The drop in attendance will affect the surplus we pass on to British tennis, but it is impossible to estimate the lost ticket revenue at this stage."

Match reports, page 41, 42

Italian Number



Italian Number

- Italian gardens of an English aesthete
 - 4,000 of the world's greatest houses: what is their future?
 - Undiscovered treasure house in Florence
 - Red coats around Rome: foxhunting in the Campagna
- Plus the usual informed cover of the arts, property, antiques, wildlife, sport and fashion.

COUNTRY LIFE
EVERY THURSDAY

Professor pronounces the end of British rural life

By JOHN YOUNG

THE "two nations" divide between rich and poor had become characteristic of life in most villages in Britain, a conference in London on the future of the countryside was told yesterday.

Professor Howard Newby, chairman of the Economic and Social Research Council, spoke of a regressive social polarisation between the affluent middle-class newcomers and the relatively poor indigenous inhabitants.

Most conventional definitions of the word rural were now obsolete, he said. There had been a flow of population back even to the most remote areas and manufacturing industry had begun to move from urban

areas into the countryside. In most areas agriculture had only residual significance and consequently future changes in farming could be considered of only marginal importance to the local economy.

"Rural Britain, which was once agricultural Britain, is now urban middle-class Britain," Professor Newby told the conference, organised by the Royal Society of Arts.

The benefits of economic growth, however, had not been spread evenly among the rural population and many pockets of deprivation remained. The needs of the rural poor had become residual and the arrival of the middle class had not helped. The affluent,

with their ease of access to shops, schools, hospitals and other facilities, were ready to accept lower levels of public services in return for lower taxation, and that would become even more so with the introduction of the community charge. Meanwhile, the needs of the poor, the elderly and the disabled were increasingly ignored.

Professor Newby said that rural economic growth depended upon an increase in the manufacturing and service sectors. That was being frustrated by the "Nimby" (not in my backyard) attitude adopted by those with their own interests to pursue and who considered that more jobs and more houses detracted from, rather

than enhanced, the attractions of village life. So far it had been the most privileged members of the middle classes who had benefited most from the planning system. Fewer development controls would benefit the poorer sections of the population.

The idyllic image which many people still retained of the countryside prevented them from seeing the reality, he suggested. It was seen as under constant threat from development and from a permanent conflict between agriculture and wildlife. Such was the strength of the conservation debate that it dominated any discussion, and meant that other more basic issues were obscured.

The future

of your company is not in the hands of your board.



Slowly but surely, a group of people will start to take over your company. A group of people who, if neglected, could cause you more than a few problems. But who, if encouraged, could begin to transform your company and help it move into the next century with previously unknown strength and vitality.

We refer, of course, to your company's young people. Your future. A future that could look rosier than ever. For now there's New Youth Training. Please carry on reading...

It's rather different from the old YTS. Essentially, it's a name for a training package that comprises a range of courses so diverse, they can be practically tailor-made for both employer and employee alike.

It offers young people, either in or out of work, a real leg-up to their chosen career. It opens up doors that would otherwise be closed. It allows them to train for qualifications that'll give them

every chance of getting a better job, or forging ahead in the career they've already chosen.

There are courses for any arm of any industry you can think of, including yours, and for any size of business from the mini to the mega.

This means you can groom your youngsters for the specific areas of your company that will be of most benefit to both.

How does it work?

Once you've contacted us, a training specialist will call your company and spend some time getting a feel for the way you work.

In consultation with one of your Directors or your Personnel Manager, he'll put together a package for the individuals who are to go on the course.

Needless to say, the programmes are subject to your nod and are absolutely flexible.

They last as long as they need to. And training can take the form of full-time, block release, day release or sandwich courses.

Once completed, your employees

are in possession not of a useless bit of paper, but fully recognised qualifications. Recognised by employers and awarded by such eminent bodies as City & Guilds, Royal Society of Arts, Pitmans, BTEC and SCOTVEC. All with a useful contribution from the Government.

For the time being, (and as long as you're holding this newspaper), your future is in your hands. Sure, the time when those youngsters will be poised for management may seem a long way off. (But does your youth seem a long way off to you now?). And sure, they're not all going to make it to management level.

But this much is true. Your company is the people that work in it. By offering New Youth Training, you're not only increasing the calibre of your workforce.

You're also increasing the overall standard of your output and making your company a much more attractive place to be. Both to present and future employees.

There's another factor: In two years time, there'll be 27% fewer 16-19 year olds coming on to the job market than in 1987.

A few months ago, the CBI published a report on skills shortages.

The results were startling: 45% of employers have admitted that skill shortages have affected production.

It is vital we train our young. The benefits of New Youth Training are as real and as great as you and your Directors want them to be.

Please have your Personnel Manager contact your Training Agency area office or Training and Enterprise Council.

Alternatively you can call us free on: 0800 44 42 42.

Or you can write. The address is: New Youth Training, Department TI 001, Freepost CV1037, Birmingham Road, Stratford Upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 0BR.



NEW YOUTH TRAINING.
IT PAYS TO BE QUALIFIED.

هكزامن الاجل

Saf

Prope

Diplomat
acquitted of
drug charge

Theatre blow

Video film taken by...
...the cost of their...
...the summer...
...the book will return...
...home at Blacking...

Camera cars

Book back

Costly clanger

Solstice costs

Bypass opens

British Rail annual report

Safety costs after Clapham to be substantial

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE full cost of implementing all 71 recommendations for improved railway safety identified by the Hidden report into the triple rail crash at Clapham in December 1988, in which 35 people died, has not yet been calculated, British Rail confirmed yesterday.

Although work has begun on implementing all but two of the recommendations, it was too early to quantify the final cost of the safety programme, which would be "substantial", Sir Robert Reid, the BR chairman, said.

Unofficial estimates have suggested the final cost of the recommendations could be between £500 million and £1 billion. Opposition MPs have repeatedly called on Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, to say whether they will be paid for by increased fares. Mr Parkinson has not responded. Sir Robert said he had every confidence that Mr Parkinson would honour his commitment to ensure "money is no obstacle" to full implementation, through direct grant, increased subsidy, or relaxed financial targets.

BR earlier announced that an extra £250 million was to be included in the forthcoming 1990 corporate plan for safety measures, while Sir Robert said the cost of the programme would be identified separately in BR's future financial statements. BR recently appointed a safety director and a fire safety advisor to provide greater impetus to safety improvements and a higher awareness of safety hazards, the report said.

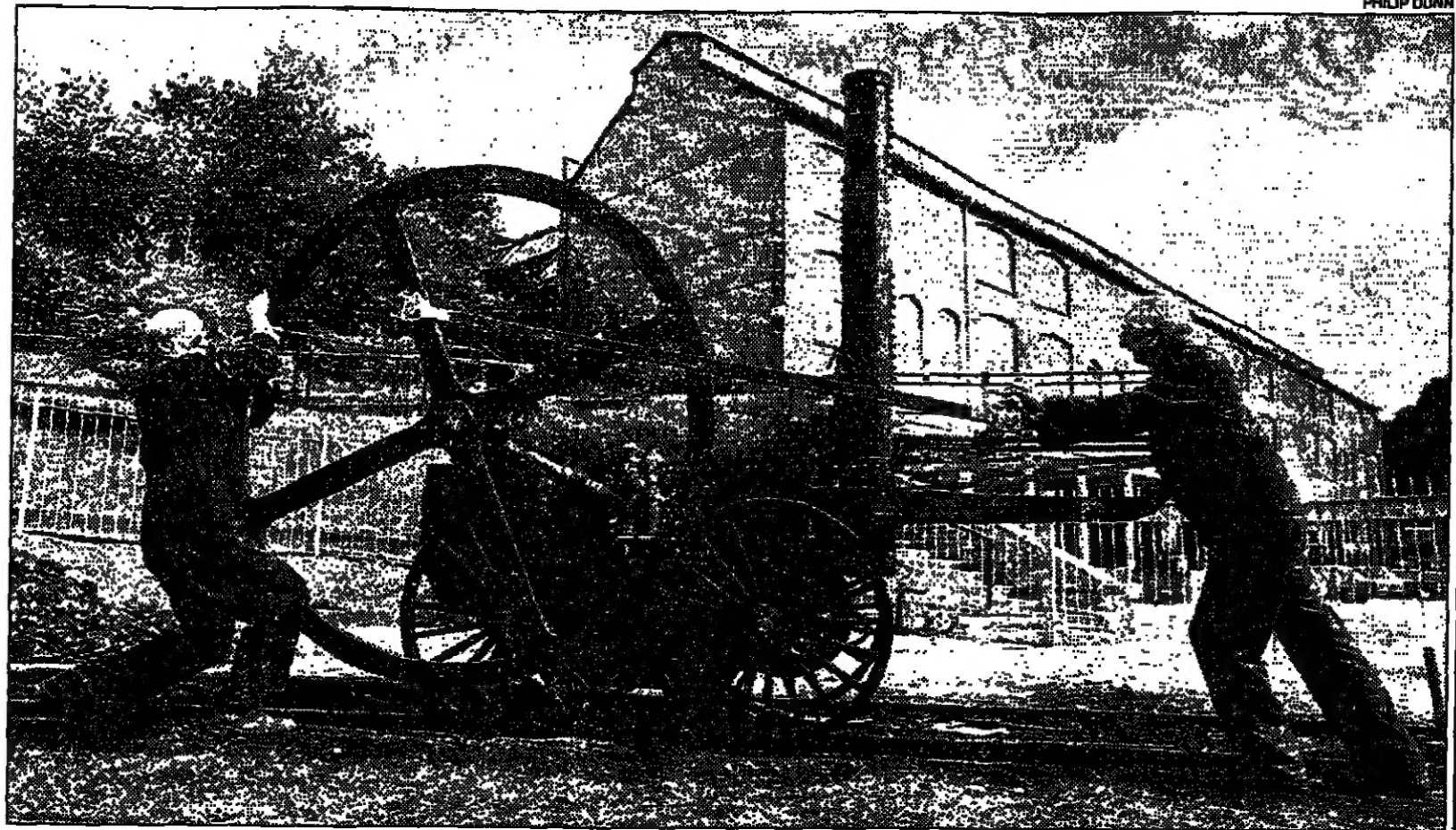
Work on the two remaining

recommendations, calling for the installation of "black box" data recorders on trains similar to those on aircraft, and discussions with the Railway Inspectorate after research into the structural integrity of rolling stock, will begin as soon as possible, Sir Robert said.

The task of fitting cab radios to all main-line locomotives is well under way and BR expects to complete the programme for all traction units within five years. Contracts have been awarded to develop and supply two pilot automatic train protection (ATP) systems, a technology preventing locomotives passing red lights or breaking speed limits. These will be tested on the main line between Paddington and Bristol and on the suburban line between Marylebone and Aylesbury.

The Hidden report gave BR five years to develop and install the ATP technology on all trains throughout the network. This will be the single most expensive of all the recommendations. It also demanded that BR increase spending on research and development into improving the "structural integrity" of rolling stock, particularly on the sides of carriages, which are less collision resistant than the ends. Progress must be discussed with the Railway Inspectorate. BR is at present testing an experimental black-box data recorder.

Preliminary changes in BR's signalling and telecommunications division, designed to eradicate bad working practices, lack of



Engineers getting to grips with a working replica of the first railway locomotive in the world for service at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Shropshire. The engine, designed by the Cornish engineer Richard Trevithick, was built at Coalbrookdale, Shropshire, between 1802 and 1803, probably predating a Trevithick engine built in north Wales which successfully pulled ten tons over ten miles

supervision, and excessive overtime, highlighted by the Hidden report, were implemented last year. Plans are being discussed with the National Union of Railwaymen to restructure the jobs and gradings of more than 50,000 staff in an effort to further reduce dependence on overtime. The report said appalling

working practices and a lack of satisfactory managerial supervision had led to the Clapham disaster, the direct causes of which were wiring errors made by Brian Hemmings, the senior technician on the Waterloo re-signalling scheme, and the failure of Derek Bumstead, the supervisor responsible for monitoring

Mr Hemmings' work, to carry out his obligations. The annual report said no passenger was killed in a train accident in 1989-90, a year in which safety consciousness had been raised because of the three major accidents the previous year.

The number of staff killed however increased from 14 to

15. The derailment of the Oxford-Paddington service at West Ealing, London, in August last year after vandals placed a length of rail on the line forced BR to accelerate "operation clean sweep" in an effort to clear the lineside of all but essential engineering material, the report said. BR has also been implementing

the 113 recommendations contained in the Fennell Report into the fire at King's Cross in November 1987, in which 31 people died.

Most of the recommendations concern management and fire safety practices. "Fire safety in new, refurbished and existing trains is being examined, and to date 94 of the 113 Fennell recommendations have been implemented," the report said.

Sir Robert said safety had been built into railway operations over the years, establishing rail as a safe way to travel.

"That is why the Clapham accident came as such a shock. The positive side is the impetus it has given to a comprehensive review of all our safety procedures and training."

Responding fully to the recommendations was "one of the challenges we have willingly accepted", he said.

Property income of £412m transforms loss on services

BRITISH Rail has discovered that the air space above railway stations makes money (Michael Dynes writes). The discovery has been responsible for a big increase in property revenues, which are now playing a central role in keeping the railways in profit.

Publishing British Rail's annual report yesterday, Sir Robert Reid, the BR chairman, announced that the property board had produced a record contribution of £412.2 million to BR's 1989-90 income, up almost 24 per cent on the previous year. Consequently, the £26.4 mil-

lion loss on running the national rail service was transformed into a group profit of £269.8 million. Without that income Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, would be forced to increase government rail subsidy, instead of reducing it.

In spite of a difficult market, BR's property board recorded £319.2 million from property sales and development premiums last year, and earned £120.9 million from letting, giving an operating surplus of £93 million. During the year, some 1,242 acres of land were removed from the register of unused

and underused public lands, bringing BR's total land disposals to about 12,130 acres since the registers were created.

In the face of decreased development activity, particularly pronounced in the retail sector, the property board negotiated 53 agreements with private-sector partners, including plans for a 70-acre retail-business park in Derby and a 250,000 sq ft shopping centre in west London. During the next decade a variety of private-sector developments will create more than five million square feet of office space at

London's Fenchurch Street, Victoria, Charing Cross, and Cannon Street stations. All will include extensive station improvements.

The £1.5 billion Broadgate development at Liverpool Street station alone will create 4.25 million sq ft of commercial and office space and finance the £100 million reconstruction of the station, due to be completed this year. Similarly, the £135 million development at Charing Cross station will provide 347,000 sq ft of office space and 30,000 sq ft of retail space, mostly along the Embankment. It is also

due to be completed this year. Negotiations with the London Regeneration Consortium have resulted in a planning application for a mixed residential-office scheme on the 134-acre site behind King's Cross and St Pancras stations, which BR describes as "the largest proposed development of its kind in Europe".

Property is now being acquired in London for the construction of the new Channel tunnel terminal at Waterloo station, where BR expects to profit from international companies seeking to locate their offices above the station.

Diplomat is acquitted on drug charge

THE former Mauritian High Commissioner in London, Soo Soobiah, aged 67, and his wife Muriel, 63, were yesterday cleared by a jury of laundering profits from a mafia-backed heroin ring.

Mr Soobiah's son Nigel is awaiting sentence in an American jail for his part in a heroin smuggling operation backed by the mafia. He was involved in deals worth more than £1 million, Southwark Crown Court was told.

The jury took just over an hour to acquit Mr and Mrs Soobiah of assisting their son to launder the proceeds of drug trafficking. They had said they had no idea their son was a heroin dealer and had thought he earned his fortune running an antiques business.

Theatre blow

A £500,000 scheme by the Wordsworth Trust to build an underground lecture theatre in the grounds of its hotel near the poet's home, Dove Cottage at Grasmere, was rejected by Lake District planners.

Camera cars

Video film taken by Essex police was used as evidence at Chelmsford Crown Court when Mark Harkins, 42, of Shoeburyness, was jailed for two months for reckless driving. All police traffic cars in the county are now fitted with the cameras.

Book back

The National Trust paid £20,000 for a Latin version of Strabo's 64BC *Geographica*, printed in 1473, which was sold in New York 60 years ago. The book will return to its former home at Blickling Hall, Norfolk.

Costly clanger

An attempt to set a world record by ringing 25,000 changes on the church bells at St Budoc, in Cornwall, failed when a mistake was made after 5,000 changes.

Solstice costs

Wiltshire police have estimated the cost of their operation for the summer solstice at Stonehenge will be less than £300,000, a 40 per cent reduction on last year's bill.

Bypass opens

A bypass around Sheffield and the villages of Clifton and Henlow, Bedfordshire, opened yesterday, 54 years after residents first asked for it.

Telecom 'must pay up for partially faulty lines'

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

CUSTOMERS whose telephone lines suffer intermittent or partial faults should have the right to compensation from British Telecom, according to a *Which?* report, published today by the Consumers' Association.

Under present rules compensation is "strictly speaking payable only for a continuous fault", the report says. Customers should also be compensated if the installation date offered by the telephone company is inordinately long.

The association believes the telephone companies' watchdog body, the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel), should lay down a maximum waiting period after which refunds can be claimed.

The recommendations form part of a second study into

how telephone services have improved or deteriorated since Telecom's privatisation in 1984 and the creation of a competitor, Mercury Communications.

Many of Telecom's services have improved since the last survey in 1987, but there is still room for improvement, says the report, which questioned more than 1,500 private telephone subscribers.

Reliability has failed to improve, with two fifths of subscribers claiming their telephone had been out of order at least once in the past 18 months and half of those suffering twice during the period.

Nearly a third of the faults involved telephones not accepting incoming calls and a quarter involved subscribers

unable to make outgoing calls. Almost a half reported complete breakdowns.

One in 20 of the survey had cutouts and calls that faded away, with 17 per cent complaining about poor sound and faulty ringing mechanisms.

Nevertheless, the survey did find that the level of poor lines, crossed lines and disconnections had fallen from 10 per cent to 4 per cent. The speed at which Telecom is installing lines has also improved, with nearly a third connected within a week compared with one in 10 in 1987.

Telecom has proposed charges for directory enquiries but the association is calling on OfTel to allow charges to be made only for business customers.

Service at DSS 'could improve'

MORE can be done to improve the service the social security department offers claimants, in spite of government efforts to raise standards, according to the Consumers' Association.

A survey of 2,400 people carried out for the association's magazine *Which?* highlighted poor facilities, difficulties in dealing with unusual cases and discrepancies in the way in which claims were processed.

The government began upgrading the department's service two years ago. It started to introduce computers, set performance targets, refurbished claims offices and decentralised claims processing. The benefits system was simplified and a Social Fund was introduced to provide discretionary loans for items such as furniture or to pay for home repairs.

The association said it found that one in three people questioned thought the service was poor. Almost two out of three who had contacted the department described the service as, at best, fair.

One claimant in 17 had difficulties making a claim, while the figure rose for certain types of non-contributory benefit such as income support.

Swimming pool quality criticised

SAFETY standards and water quality at swimming pools have been criticised in a Consumers' Association report published yesterday. In tests at 19 swimming pools in the West Midlands inspectors from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents found four pools with poor safety. One was found to be "potentially dangerous".

In separate tests the Institution of Environmental Health Officers took 27,000 water samples nationwide in 1986/7. They found nearly 10 per cent of public pools and more than 19 per cent of private pools had unsatisfactory levels of bacteria content. The report in *Which?* said about 30 people drowned in swimming pools each year.

The survey said there were worrying examples of poor supervision and pool design, which were a cause of concern. Inadequate supervision, murky water and misleading depth markings made the pool at the St John's Swallow Hotel, Solihull, potentially dangerous, inspectors said. The hotel pool, another private facility and two Birmingham council pools were reported to Health and Safety Executive and local environmental health officers.



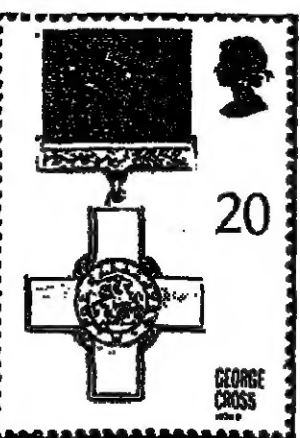
Stamps to mark 1940 heroics

FIVE stamps depicting top military and civil medals to mark the dark days of 1940 will go on sale on September 11.

Sir Bryan Nicholson, Post Office chairman, said yesterday: "The stamps will be of special significance for 50 years ago the heroic evacuation of Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain and the blitz on many British towns and cities took place, and the George Cross was introduced."

Two stamps show Britain's highest decorations, the Victoria Cross (above) and (below) the George Cross, for civilians. The others depict the top gallantry awards of the three services.

They have been designed by John Gibbs and illustrated by John Harwood the artist.



Tube driver wins damages for stress after blaze rescue

ARTHUR Barrett, the London Underground driver who saved the lives of more than 150 passengers during the King's Cross fire, won £8,750 damages for emotional stress in the High Court yesterday.

Allan Gore, for Mr Barrett, told the court he had defied the orders of his superiors by stopping at King's Cross to pick up between 150 and 200 stranded passengers crowded on to the platform to escape the fireball on the escalators and in the ticket hall. Thirty-one people were killed in the blaze in November 1987.

He told Mr Justice Phillips how Mr Barrett stopped the train "at the height of the tragedy as it was unfolding".

London Underground, for whom Mr Barrett still works, agreed to the payout after admitting liability. The judge praised Mr Barrett's "great clearheadedness and courage" in stopping his train. He said lives were saved "because of his bravery".

Mr Barrett, aged 41, of Tatwin Drive, Crewland, Peterborough, suffered psychological trauma after the fire. He claimed his emotional injuries had affected his personal relationships. Last night, he said he was happy with the award.

Another damages claim against London Underground by Greg Pigott, a former fireman, of Rosemont Road, Hampstead, northwest London, was adjourned for further evidence to be gathered.

Mr Pigott, aged 26, says he suffers from a post-traumatic stress disorder after watching the dead and injured being brought from the ticket hall after the disaster in November 1987. He alleges it led to his giving up his job.

He worked for a time as a

teacher but has given that up. He alleges a changed personality and lack of concentration. A month after the fire he suffered a knee injury in a motorcycle accident and the court heard it might have been that injury that caused him to give up work.

Andrew Dismore, who represented both men and many other claims resulting from the disaster, said Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

London Underground has accepted responsibility for the claims. In April last year it paid out £250,000 damages to Linda Townsley, the widow of Colin Townsley - a record for a fireman killed on duty.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

London Underground has accepted responsibility for the claims. In April last year it paid out £250,000 damages to Linda Townsley, the widow of Colin Townsley - a record for a fireman killed on duty.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

London Underground has accepted responsibility for the claims. In April last year it paid out £250,000 damages to Linda Townsley, the widow of Colin Townsley - a record for a fireman killed on duty.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

Mr Barrett's case was unique because he was the only train driver to make a claim. Of the 100 claims arising from the fire, about two thirds have been settled. There are many dozens still waiting to be heard, including those from several fire fighters and members of the public.

Water meters to cost up to £200 per home

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

WATER meters, which are expected to be installed in most homes by 2000, will cost householders up to £200 a property, a charge the water companies may try to insist be pre-paid.

This was disclosed yesterday after publication of an interim report by the water industry on meter trials in 64,000 homes in several parts of the country. The Office of Water Services (Ofwat), the independent consumer watchdog body set up last year by the government after privatisation, said it would keep a close watch on the plans.

Ofwat will publish a consultative document in September to stimulate a public debate on methods of charging for water. It will be demanding consumer safeguards. A new charging method is needed by the turn of the century because the present system, based on the old household rateable value of buildings, has been replaced by the community charge.

Ofwat is concerned about possible pre-payment of meter installation and the access consumers will be given to their meters so that they know how much water they are using.

Water companies are expected to favour external meters that would be buried in enlarged garden stop-cock sites and thus not easily accessible to householders. The advantage is that householders do not need to be at home when the meter is read. Trials indicate that water consumption falls by 10 per cent when consumers observe how much they are using.

That should mean water companies will be able to save on capital expenditure for reservoirs and pumping stations. Matthew Toulmin, Ofwat's spokesman, said: "We want easy access to meters for the consumer so that he or she can see how much water is being consumed. We prefer for meters to be installed in the house rather than at the bottom of the garden."

"We do not feel it is appropriate for consumers to be charged the full cost upfront for a meter prior to use."

"We shall be looking at the question of savings in water consumption as a result of metering. It would not be fair to pass on the cost of installation if metering means the companies make big capital savings because demand is down. That would mean the companies would effectively be paid twice."

Metering would be possible in 95 per cent of households, the report concludes. It would cost £165 to install an internal meter and £200 for an external one. Welsh Water, one of the 10 privatised water companies in England and Wales, has already scrapped metering as an option.

Bills in metering trials have been the same or lower for two thirds of customers but one in five households had to pay 20 per cent more than its previous bill.

David Gadbury, chairman of the group co-ordinating the trials, said metering was likely to be introduced in a patchwork way.

Southern Water said the cost of meter installation has to be passed on to householders because the water companies were dependent on consumers as their sole source of revenue.

Three teams study tunnel site deaths

By DAVID YOUNG

SAFETY at the Channel tunnel construction site, which is to be examined by a Commons select committee, is also being investigated by two other teams of inspectors. Patrick Nicholls, the employment minister responsible for health and safety, said yesterday.

The minister, who visited the site at Folkestone, Kent, yesterday, said two safety audits were nearing completion. The first was being carried out by the government Health and Safety Executive and the other by the construction company TransManche Link.

Mr Nicholls said the two studies would be used as a basis for safety improvements, if necessary. He welcomed the select committee enquiry.

The employment department called in the construction company earlier this year after the sixth fatal accident on the British site in 16 months. It is now more than 100 days since any injury occurred but the number of deaths since work began compares unfavourably with the two French fatalities.

The minister said: "This is one of the largest and most complex construction projects

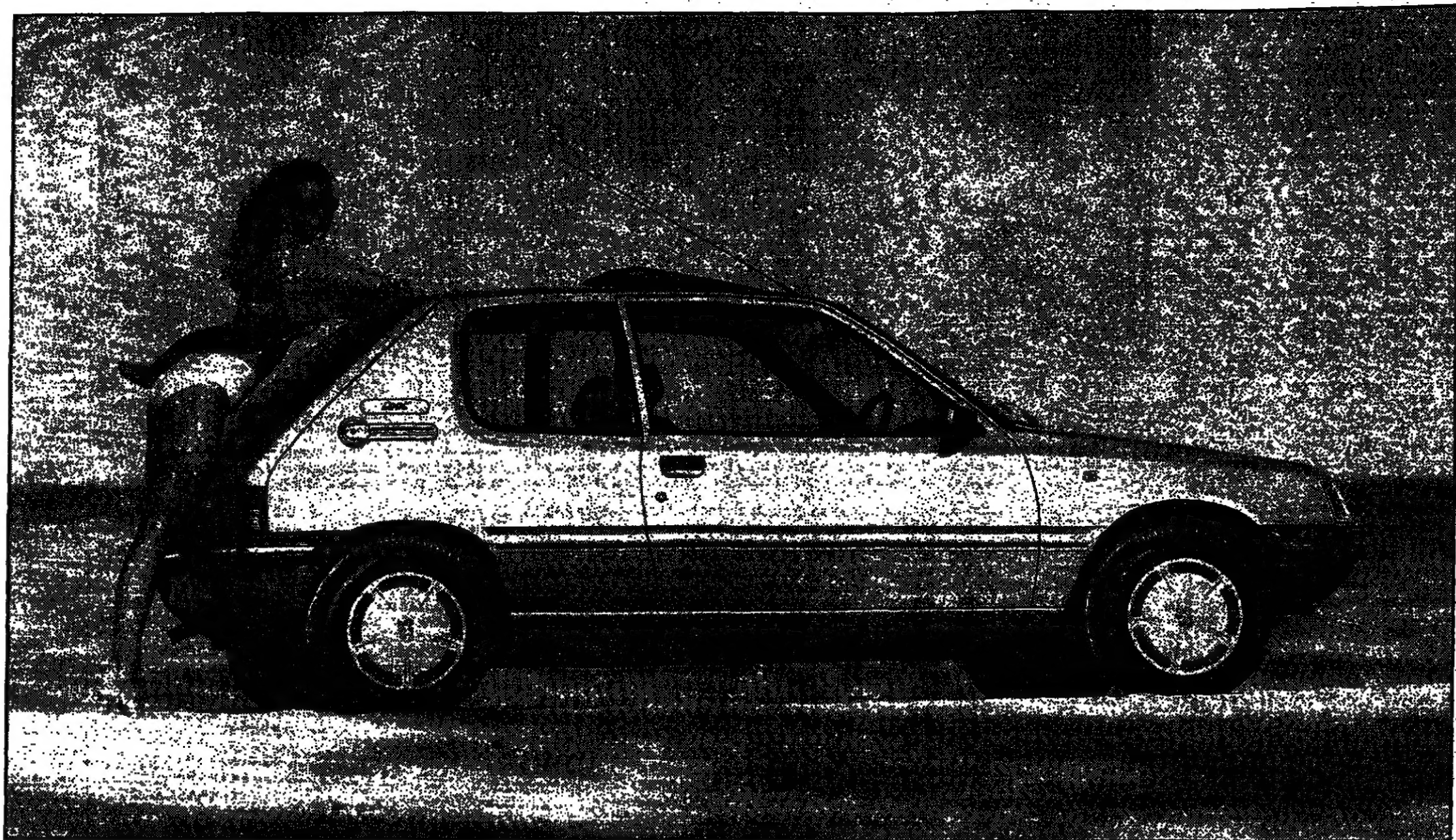
in Europe, employing over 7,000 people, and it demands that the management of health and safety is given the highest priority. Effective control requires commitment and involvement at the most senior management levels if we are to bring about the necessary attention to health and safety."

Mr Nicholls said he and his colleagues were concerned about the accident record but there were many important lessons being learned which could be applied to the entire construction industry.

"The commitment to safety of all parties involved in this project is commendable. Responsibility for health and safety clearly rests with the contractor, but the safety representatives and each individual employee also have a key role to play."

The minister met union representatives on the site. He said reports that speed was being given priority over safety were totally unfounded. The unions were proud to be involved in the project, he said, and they would be the first to complain if that were true. Mr Nicholls said the unions realised that safety came first and they were working to make sure their members were protected.

LOOK



FIND

A SPECIAL 205 AT A SPECIAL PRICE

**PLUS 2,000 MILES FREE UNLEADED PETROL
OR 12 MONTHS FREE INSURANCE**

For the special on the road price of just £6,795 you can be the proud owner of a stylish new Peugeot 205 LOOK.

It comes in either dazzling white or chic metallic blue†, and has a number of very special features. Like a pop-up glass sunroof, special wheel covers, distinctive body side tapes and, of course, that special edition LOOK

PLUS 0% A.P.R.
FINANCE

badging. Tempted? It gets better. Because this 1.1 litre car also features a stereo/radio cassette and a stylish blue interior.

And we're making an offer that's as special as the car itself; with every 205 LOOK you'll get either 2,000 miles worth of free unleaded petrol** or 1 year's free insurance††. And that's on top of the 0% or other low finance packages.

Telephone the free Peugeot LOOK-LINE today, quoting reference B1 to claim your petrol or insurance voucher.

And open your eyes to the Peugeot 205 LOOK.

CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR CHOICE
0800 800 480

PEUGEOT FLEXIBLE FINANCE PLANS EXAMPLE: 205 LOOK 3-DOOR IN WHITE			
LOAN PERIOD	12 MONTHS	36 MONTHS	48 MONTHS
APR	0%	13.6%	16.4%
ON THE ROAD PRICE*	£6,795.00	£6,795.00	£6,795.00
MINIMUM DEPOSIT	£3,397.56	£2,038.50	£1,359.00
MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£283.12	£159.47	£151.76
FINANCE CHARGES†	NIL	£999.42	£1,863.48
TOTAL REPAYABLE	£6,795.00	£7,794.42	£8,658.48
CUSTOMER SAVING V 25% APR WITH PEUGEOT TALBOT CREDIT	£428.62	£845.04	£1,010.65

*CREDIT SUBJECT TO STATUS (OVER 18'S ONLY). A GUARANTOR MAY BE REQUIRED. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. †INCLUDES £75 NO ACCEPTANCE FEE PAYABLE WITH FIRST INSTALLMENT.

OR RETURN THIS COUPON

Return coupon to: Peugeot Talbot Motor Company Ltd., 205 LOOK Offer, FREEPOST TK 898, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 8BR.

NAME _____

ADDRESS (PRIVATE/BUSINESS) _____

POST CODE _____

PRESENT CAR _____ REG. _____

PREFERRED PEUGEOT DEALER (IF KNOWN) _____

B1



PEUGEOT. THE LION GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

PEUGEOT 205 LOOK
SET THE PACE, GET THE LOOK

*ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. INCLUDES ESTIMATED ON THE ROAD COSTS OF: 6 MONTHS ROAD TAX, DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES. PEUGEOT TALBOT MOTOR CO LTD (LICENSED CREDIT BROKERS). †METALLIC PAINT EXTRA. FOR A WRITTEN QUOTATION CONTACT PEUGEOT TALBOT CREDIT, PO BOX 200, CHURCHILL PLAZA, CHURCHILL, WARE, BASHINGSTON, BEDS MK45 7YD. ††SUBJECT TO EXCESS. APPLICANTS MUST BE OVER 18 AND MUST NOT HAVE BEEN DISQUALIFIED FROM DRIVING WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS. **PEUGEOT WILL PAY FOR 2,000 MILES WORTH OF PETROL. 2,000 MILES BASED ON AVERAGE GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES OF 51.4MPG, FOR 205 1.1 TDI (AN AVERAGE OF 62.8MPG AT 56MPH, 47.9MPG AT 70MPH AND 43.5 MPG URBAN CYCLES) 17.0 GALLON OF UNLEADED PETROL. †††SUBJECT TO EXCESS. APPLICANTS MUST BE OVER 18 AND MUST NOT HAVE BEEN DISQUALIFIED FROM DRIVING WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS. ALL OFFERS AVAILABLE TO PRIVATE BUYERS AND BUSINESSES OPERATING UP TO 20 VEHICLES ON 200 LITRES REGISTERED BETWEEN 25TH JUNE AND 30TH SEPTEMBER 1990.

هكزامن الاصيل

Bart's leads City group hospitals in opt-out plan

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the country's oldest and most renowned hospitals is planning to go self-governing with all the hospitals and community services in its district, in spite of consultant opposition to the scheme.

Managers at City and Hackney will submit a formal bid tomorrow to Kenneth Clarke for St Bartholomew's, the Homerton and St Marks hospitals in the City of London to opt out of health authority control and set up as an NHS trust. If approved it is likely to be the largest in the country.

The application proposal makes clear that the district intends to compete aggressively with private hospitals to attract more business and money. As part of a £30 million upgrading exercise over the next five years 22-bed Nightingale wards will be adapted into four-bed bays, single and double rooms.

St Bartholomew's will have private beds for the first time but there is no plan for a special private wing. Apart from taking business from other London hospitals the new trust hopes to strike a deal with EC countries for surgery contracts.

"The trust intends to have standards of NHS accommodation as attractive to non-NHS paying patients as our private-sector competitors," the proposal says. "This recognises that under this new-style NHS every patient will in effect be a paying patient. When, and only when, the trust has treated all the NHS patients it can through the new funding system will it offer any excess capacity to non-NHS paying patients."

St Bartholomew's now has seven wards closed, or about 200 beds, because it cannot afford to keep them open. The proposal document claims that this spare capacity can be used as soon as the hospital can start charging for patients under the new internal market. By treating more patients overhead costs would be reduced and income could be used to improve NHS services. The more work attracted the more jobs the trust would create, it says.

A brochure, which will be sent out to the local community, sets out the main advantages of the hospital setting up on its own. "No longer will the aims of distant authorities override what local people want. Bureaucracy will be cut back to focus resources on delivering care and maximising the health of people."

The advantages of opting out as a district meant that all the district hospital, community and teaching services would stay as a comprehensive service. Consultants would be appointed to any hospitals as district employees rather than one unit.

With its new ability to raise loans from both the private and public sector the trust could replace and upgrade outdated medical equipment. Initially the trust would keep the same terms and conditions of service for its employees although this could change as the hospitals attracted new funds. New quality standards will also be set: for example, a patient will have the right to see a consultant if he or she has waited for an outpatient appointment for more than an hour.

Although Mr Clarke originally said he would not approve whole districts opting out, because this would reduce

competition, it is understood that his officials at least now support the idea. Whether it will be accepted now appears to depend on its financial viability.

The district has had to keep 175 beds closed and shut a further 30 beds at St Bartholomew's this year because of underfunding for inflation and pay awards. However, Dr Ken Grant, district general manager, insisted yesterday that the district would be able to balance its books by the end of the year.

Two months ago consultants at St Bartholomew's and the two other hospitals voted 91 to 76 against becoming a trust in a ballot organised by the Electoral Reform Society. Dr Grant said he was confident that once the consultants heard about the financial advantages of setting up as a trust they would back the deal.

Dr Grant, who is acting as the shadow chief executive of the new trust, expects to get at least £10 million from the new rules, which allow trusts to keep capital depreciation plus further capital from a special earmarked fund at the department of health. He expects self-governing hospitals to get preferential treatment over other hospitals in London, which have had their capital finances tightly squeezed this year.

"To be frank there would be no point in us going through all this bother if it was not going to be worth it financially," he added.

Rich hospital that treated the poor

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S Hospital has prided itself on its community links since it was founded by Rahere, an Augustinian monk, in 1123, "to minister to the sick and the poor and care for the old, orphans and foundlings" (Jill Sherman writes).

In recent years the 600-bed hospital, in the heart of the City of London, has done its best to minister to the poor from the more deprived areas of the capital while at the same time depending on City institutions for charitable donations, sponsorship and fees for private health checks.

Today Britain's oldest hospital, which only narrowly escaped the clutches of Henry VIII because of its monastic links and destruction by the Great Fire of London in 1666, is a thriving business. Its

corridors and Nightingale wards, which once witnessed the poverty and squalor of Victorian London and later the horrors of the Blitz, now bear company logos and benefactors' inscriptions. It employs 6,500 staff, treats more than 330,000 cases a year and has a budget of more than £100 million.

In the 18th century the hospital was redesigned by Gibbs with three detached stately facades, a broad archway through one of them, surrounding an elegant courtyard. Despite further additions it remains one of the most splendid buildings in Smithfield.

It now hires out its palatial halls for debutante balls and weddings, sells catering, laundry and printing services and provides private breast cancer

screening for worried 40-year-old commuters.

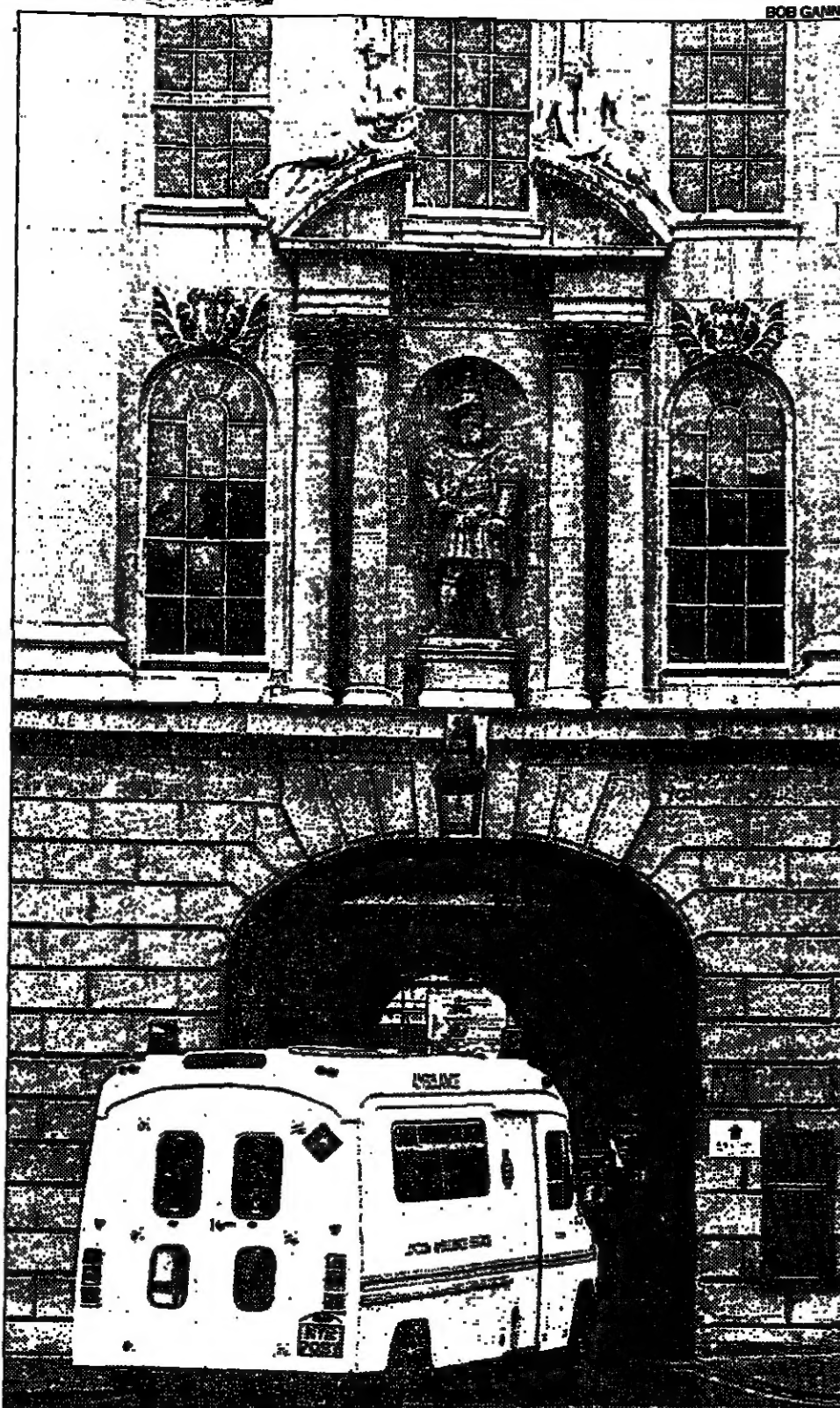
After a further £20 million rebuilding programme in the 1960s, the hospital helped to set up a City migraine clinic in 1970. Fifteen years later the hospital became embroiled in an argument over merging its medical school with the London Hospital. In the end the medical academics got their way and the merger was abandoned.

Shortly afterwards a former Labour chairman, Ken Grant, became district general manager of City and Hackney and vigorously started courting the City and the foreign market for extra income. He also wrote a leader in *The Lancet* calling for the setting-up of an internal market and then started charging other authorities for expensive techniques

such as growth hormone replacement, children's eye tumours and some kidney treatments.

That year City and Hackney set up two in-vitro fertilisation clinics with the private sector, used private hospitals to reduce waiting lists and asked GPs to refer to hospitals in their own districts because Barts could not afford to treat any more patients.

Since then the hospital has had to cut 200 beds because of financial difficulties and re-strain further the number of patients it has been able to treat. It has signed contracts with other EC countries to ensure overseas income.



St Bartholomew's yesterday: behind the splendid facade a fine record of service

Militant miners urged to leave pit

By PETER DAVENPORT

THE manager of Hatfield Main Colliery, near Doncaster, which lost more than £11 million in the last financial year, wrote to his workforce yesterday urging union militants to leave the industry and give the colliery a last chance of survival. David Gardner said he was taking the action to give the pit a fighting chance of a future.

In a letter to the 788 miners at the colliery in the South Yorkshire coalfield, which lost almost £2 million in the first three months of this year, Mr Gardner said a plan had been devised to allow those with "no commitment" to the future of Hatfield to leave.

"I am convinced that Hatfield can have a long-term future and provide employment for yourselves and security for your families but I must have your full commitment," he said. The letter was sent out after a reconvened review meeting on the future of the pit held between Ted Horton, the area director for South Yorkshire, and officials of the National Union of Mineworkers.

British Coal said yesterday: "We are looking to get rid of people who have no interest in the pit and are actually hindering its progress. We hope the militants will take voluntary redundancy and go." Men who want to leave the colliery were asked to register for voluntary redundancy and British Coal said it hoped the issue could be resolved quickly.

In May this year Mr Gardner wrote to his workforce saying: "In recent times there has been evidence of a resurgence of outdated militancy and some of you seem to think that this is more important than the future of Hatfield Colliery." British Coal said yesterday that the colliery had healthy reserves of good quality coal and that it could sell everything that could be produced.

The survival plan also involves three-shift working on two coal faces and, if necessary, using outside contractors to carry out related developments. "The director stressed that this option is the only hope of survival. If the plan is not agreed then he will announce the closure of Hatfield," Mr Gardner added.

British Coal also announced yesterday that it intended to close Brodsworth Colliery, South Yorkshire, "as soon as practicable" because of continuing heavy financial losses - £2.4 million in the quarter to June.

Peers dispute handling of broadcasting complaints

By RICHARD EVANS, MEDIA EDITOR

A DIGNIFIED yet daunting argument broke out between two of the nation's more outspoken peers last night over who should handle day-to-day broadcasting complaints.

The dispute started at the Radio Academy in Glasgow when Lord Chalfont insisted that Lord Rees-Mogg, a fellow Garrick club member and former colleague on *The Times*, should not carry out the job. Instead, he said, the Broadcasting Standards Council (BSC) set up by the prime minister to deal with sex and violence on television, and chaired by Lord Rees-Mogg, should be "content" with drawing up guidelines for broadcasters.

Lord Chalfont said only the proposed Independent Television Commission (ITC), of which he is to be chairman, and the proposed Radio Authority, of which he is a member, should be responsible for adjudicating complaints about broadcasting. While the broadcasting council could give its views about complaints, Lord Chalfont said the commission or the authority should make the final decision.

He said he was very concerned that the broadcasting groups might overlap or suffer conflicts of interest. "At the moment the lines between the BSC and the two regulatory authorities are being blurred. I am very anxious to make it clear if this is going to work that the ITC and the radio authority must be the ultimate regulatory bodies. There must be no one, no organisation in the country that can overrule them."

"If we have too many of these [organisations], there will be confusion and in the end litigation if one body makes one adjudication and one makes another."

Lord Chalfont said the ideal system would involve the BSC passing on its views about a complaint to the ITC or Radio Authority "and we should make the final decision."

Lord Rees-Mogg was not amused by his fellow peer's comments. "Lord Chalfont's suggestion would make a complete nonsense of the whole thing. It does not bear any examination," he said. The BSC had been set up to consider complaints from the public "and we represent the public against the broad-

casters". He accepted there could be disagreement between the council and the two regulatory bodies. "If you have disagreement you have disagreement. When the public complain we shall listen to the public and if we think the broadcasters have got it wrong we shall say so."

British newspaper reporting standards were criticised yesterday by Alistair Cooke, the veteran broadcaster, who delivered *The Listener* lecture at the Glasgow academy.

He highlighted the striking increase in the number of "ideological reporters" and said British tabloids were the worst in the world.

Listener watchdogs for stations

HUNDREDS of radio listeners are to be appointed as watchdogs to monitor the performance of their local commercial station, Lord Chalfont, chairman of the proposed radio authority, said yesterday (Richard Evans writes).

They will be able to lodge complaints ranging from concern at a disc jockey's language to the failure of a station to keep to its original franchise remit. Investigations into the complaints could result in a station being fined or put off the air. The "listener power" plan comes as commercial radio is due to expand with 300 new stations expected to be broadcasting by 2000.

"I can think of no other way of keeping an eye on an ear on 300 radio stations. The imagination boggles trying to do that centrally, so we have got to delegate it in some way. This is the only way that has occurred to us so far," Lord Chalfont said.

He insisted that the listener network was not a "big brother operation" and said the two listeners who would monitor each station would be appointed after consultations with the local radio company. The watchdogs would be expected to tune in on a random basis and report on the station's quality and impact. If a complaint was made the authority would listen to tapes and carry out a thorough investigation.

Royal Show at Stoneleigh

Butchers' chief attacks the 'dark forces' exploiting BSE

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S leading butcher claimed yesterday that farmers could lose important potential markets in Europe because of a national weakness for self-denigration. Colin Cullimore, chairman and chief executive of Dewhurst, the biggest chain of high street butchers, also attacked "dark forces" who, he claimed, were exploiting fears over "mad cow" disease.

Among the dark forces, Mr Cullimore included "companies who manufacture products with no meat in them, who would like to see an

enormous number of our breeding herds slaughtered and our beef given a bad reputation". He also believed there were local authorities who would be happy to see a situation where they "could demand a great deal of money to provide more inspectors to deal with what they can describe as an epidemic".

Speaking at the Royal Show, Mr Cullimore maintained that bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) had existed in sub-clinical form in cattle for as long as scrapie had existed in sheep. BSE had only now emerged, because "we have been so damn good at improving the beef herd".

British agriculture was efficient and there were many people in Europe who were quaking at the thought of free trade after 1992. "We are in a marvellous position to dominate so many sectors of agricultural produce in the Community and I am terrified we are going to lose that opportunity because we seem obsessed with examining our own navel," he said.

Royal Show officials claimed that foreign dealers were queuing to buy British cattle for breeding but were unable to do so because of import bans. "The market is there. The confidence of foreign breeders has not been shaken and they still want our genes," Colin Smith, principal livestock officer for export markets, said.

British snails are invading the dinner tables of France and could provide a lifeline for hard-pressed farmers looking for new sources of income, it was claimed yesterday.

"Production of snails is greater in Britain than in France, and there could be great scope for exports after the final removal of trade barriers in 1992," Roy Groves, director of the Snail Centre, said. Mr Groves and Phyllis Groves, his wife, set up the first indoor snail farming unit in Europe four years ago at Colwyn Bay, north Wales.

He said: "There are now 58 indoor snail farms throughout Britain and more are being set up every month."

Show results included: **SHRIMP TROPHY CHAMPIONSHIP** Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants.

SHRIMP Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants.

PIGS Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants.

BEEF CATTLE Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants.

DARTY CATTLE Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants; Best Champion, Segrave Farms, Northants; Best Reserve, Northants.

"I DON'T TAKE TRANQUILLISERS
I TAKE NATRACALM."

"IT HAD BEEN ONE OF THOSE WEEKS,
AND IT WAS CERTAINLY PROVING TO BE ONE OF THOSE DAYS . . .

NOTHING WAS GOING RIGHT. BUT I COPEd.

THANKS TO NATRACALM. TAKEN OVER A COUPLE OF DAYS

WHEN YOU FEEL AS THOUGH THE WORLD'S DEFINITELY

NOT ON YOUR SIDE, THEY HELP: THEY REALLY DO.

SO NO, I DON'T TAKE TRANQUILLISERS. I TAKE
NATRACALM."

NATRACALM. A TRADITIONAL HERBAL REMEDY
TO EASE THE TENSION AND STRAIN OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

AVAILABLE WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION FROM BOOTS,
MOST CHEMISTS AND HEALTHCARE OUTLETS.

YOUR CHOICE
0 480
COUPON

5 16800
THE LOOK

The Scotch House.

SALE

FINAL REDUCTIONS

LONDON:
2 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge,
London SW1X 7PB. Tel: 071-581 2151
84/86 Regent Street, London W1R 5PF.
Tel: 071-734 0203
191 Regent Street, London W1R 7WA.
Tel: 071-734 4815
WINDSOR: 22 Piccadilly Street,
Windsor SL4 1DU. Tel: (0753) 868114

Middle ranks ready to move up or out

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet colleagues have been assured that the reshuffle she is contemplating this month will not involve them. After the unexpected departures of Nigel Lawson, Norman Fowler and Peter Walker, she is looking for a period of stability at the top. The changes now in preparation therefore amount to a summer clear-out in the middle and lower ranks of the administration and a first step on to the escalator for selected new boys.

Deciding who should be invited to spend more time with his family will not be easy. Mrs Thatcher's normal practice is to find a few ministers of state who are past the first flush of youth or who have had a good run in government and who seem unlikely to step up to Cabinet rank. Of the present crop of ministers of state, many are clearly high fliers on their way to the Cabinet. That category would include William Waldegrave (Foreign Office), David Mellor (Home Office), John Patten (Home Office), Michael Portillo (Environment), Francis Maude (Foreign Office) and Virginia Bottomley (Health). They may be moved sideways to broaden their experience, but they will not be dropped. Other ministers of state, such as Michael Spicer (housing) and Roger Freeman (transport) have been moved into their positions only this year and are unlikely to be shifted.

That leaves nine middle-rankers theoretically in the danger zone: Richard Luce, 53 (arts and civil service), Alan Clark, 62 (defence procurement), Archie Hamilton, 48 (armed forces), Angela Rumbold, 57 (education), John Cope, 53 (Northern Ireland), Peter Morrison, 46 (energy), Lynda Chalker, 48 (overseas development), Sir Wyn Roberts, 59 (Wales) and Nicholas Scott, 56 (social security). But there the troubles begin for Mrs Thatcher. Mr Luce and Mrs Chalker are reckoned

by colleagues to be particular successes in their present posts and Mr Cope would be entitled to regard himself as hard done by were he to be dropped. Mr Hamilton is a former parliamentary private secretary (PPS) to the Prime Minister and became a minister of state only in 1988. Mr Morrison has long been one of the prime minister's trusted inner circle. Sir Wyn Roberts began as a Conservative spokesman on Wales in 1974 and has been minister of state since 1987, but the problem would lie in replacing him: the Tories have only a handful of MPs in Wales and Welsh speakers are rare. As for the elegant but indiscreet Mr Clark, he has frequently figured on the lists of possible reshuffle victims and has survived triumphantly every time. He adds style to a greyish government and if he were to be dropped now while he is in the thick of the defence cuts controversy, fighting on the same side as the prime minister, she would send all the wrong signals to the military top brass. If room is to be found for the young ones, someone will have to be

unlucky. Mrs Rumbold, Mr Scott and Mr Cope look the most likely victims. Candidates for office among the ministerial PPSs include Alistair Burt, Kenneth Baker's PPS, Andrew Mackay (Tom King), Tim Yeo (Douglas Hurd) and John Maples (Norman Lamont).

Two Foreign Office PPSs also come into the reckoning. David Davis (Francis Maude) and Ian Taylor (William Waldegrave) have both impressed, and Andrew Mitchell (John Wakeham) has caught some influential eyes. But by general consent the man most deserving of promotion is Nigel Forman, who used to serve Nigel Lawson. It would be a tragedy, say colleagues, if Mr Forman were to go on suffering because of that past association.



Forman: promotion hope

Luce defends government record on heritage

THE ARTS

THE government has taken the lead in restoring the fabric of museums, galleries and other historic buildings. Richard Luce, the arts minister, told MPs yesterday.

Responding to the plan put forward at the weekend by Peter Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, for a £1 billion fund for refurbishing the nation's heritage, he said that the government's record was hardly one of neglect.

Mr Luce, opening a full day's debate on the arts and heritage, said he recognised that constant work was required to maintain what were in most cases magnificent buildings housing the national collections.

"One of my major ambitions is to bring these museum and gallery buildings into tip-top condition by the end of the decade, and I made my intentions clear in a speech in York in September. 'I was particularly delighted to be able to launch the museums and galleries improvement fund in March this year.'

Referring to changes in support for the arts announced this year, he said that the government remained committed to a strong and effective Arts Council.

The government had spent an unprecedented amount of taxpayers' money on the arts, an increase of some 48 per cent in real terms since 1979. The Arts Council grant was worth three times what it was 20 years ago.

A symbol of its commitment was the building of the British Library at St Pancras in north London, the largest publicly funded cultural construction to be built in this country this century and since the great museums and galleries of the nineteenth century. The library would be one of the world's greatest treasure houses of the humanities and sciences. For the first time, Britain was providing, at a cost of £450 million, a specific, purpose-built home for the library.

The government had a duty to create a climate in which all arts could flourish and develop freely with a combination of public and private sector support.

"We have in Britain one of the most vibrant and diverse arts scenes in the world, something which the millions of tourists who visit our shores fully recognise."

"London remains pre-eminent in theatre, with more plays and shows being performed each evening than in any other city in the world. Much of what is available survives without public subsidy. Audiences in the West End last year reached a record 11 million, box office income exceeded £150 million, giving a major boost to the economy."

London led the way as one of the great culture capitals of the world. Last month, they had seen the opening of the new galleries of the Courtauld Institute in the beautiful neo-classical setting of Somerset House, achieved almost entirely with private sector funds.

There had been the "rehab" at the Tate and the Cloré galleries. They looked forward to the



Richard Luce: government remains committed to a strong and effective Arts Council

extension of the National Gallery with the Sainsbury wing next spring. The Royal Academy had big plans for an extension of space.

The artistic flowering was not confined to London. The Eighties had seen an economic renaissance in many great towns and cities "and the arts have played a leading role in this."

"Not only do they bring back life and vitality to the inner city, but they also act as a tangible illustration of civic pride. These features had been prominently displayed in Glasgow."

A century ago, that city was a byword for civic pride and private patronage. "Now we see another urban renaissance

which owes a great deal to Glasgow's recognition of the crucial importance which the arts can play in improving the quality of life, enhancing the identity of a great city and contributing to its economic strength."

Other cities were making contributions. Birmingham had established an international reputation for the quality of its art programme. "Exciting" plans were announced last week to make arts a centrepiece of plans to regenerate Cardiff's Tiger Bay docks.

The government's incentive funding schemes were producing excellent results. The awards that the Arts Council had made under its scheme were expected to generate an additional £27 million for the arts over the next three years, £3 for every £1 of taxpayers' investment.

The business sponsorship incentive scheme had also been a stimulus in encouraging sponsorship of the arts. Public spending of £10.5 million had brought £32.5 million in new money to the arts and introduced nearly 1,500 new sponsors to the arts.

"The co-operation between business and the arts has brought nothing but good."

The announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of tax relief for gifts would have a big impact on support for the arts and heritage. It would apply to personal and corporate gifts over a huge range, from £500 to £5 million. Everything needed to be done to encourage the culture of giving.

Turning to the fabric of museums and galleries, Mr Luce said one of his main ambitions was to bring these buildings into tip-top condition by the end of the decade.

This year £57 million was being provided and over the next three years the total government sum provided for building work would be more than £180 million. That was a great deal more taxpayers' money for repairing and improving the fabric.

"In this context Mr Peter Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, put some interesting ideas to the government."

"The Arts Council are developing some ideas on the refurbishment and the Theatre Trust are at present doing an estimate of the refurbishment required to theatres. It is for each department to deal with the matter as they think best. I am grateful to Mr Palumbo for his strong and imaginative interest in this matter."

Speaker accepts Nellist apology

David Nellist (Coventry South East, Lab) admitted to the Commons yesterday that he had berated Angela Rumbold, an education minister, when he crossed the floor at the end of the debate on Tuesday. Jacques Arnold (Gravesend, C) said that it had been a case of physical intimidation.

Mr Nellist said: "It has been put to me that it was intimidatory and harassment, and now it has been said that it was physical. I wish to make clear that it was not intended in that way. It has been put to me that I ought to apologise and I accept that. I do not apologise for the speech I made. The education team should resign in disgrace."

The Speaker (Bernard Weatherill) said: "I judge right what he said. Mr Nellist has apologised to the House and I accept that. The deputy speaker in the chair (Betty Boothroyd) would also appreciate a note from him."

Pharmacists' deal imposed

Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, has imposed a pay settlement on pharmacists because, he says, the negotiating committee has been unable to agree what he regarded as a fair and reasonable offer.

In a written reply, Mr Clarke said that negotiations began last December and the health department had made big concessions. The pharmaceutical services negotiating committee had declined a state of dispute. The settlement would give community pharmacists an increase in professional fees of 7.5 per cent over the 1989-90 levels.

ERM dispute is denied

There was no dispute between the prime minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or any other member of the cabinet, over the United Kingdom's joining the exchange-rate mechanism when conditions were right, Lord Heslop, government spokesman, said during question time in the Lords. "There is one view and that is the government view."

Many injuries not reported

It is estimated that the degree of non-reporting of injuries to employees in all sectors is about half and there are indications that under-reporting in the building industry may be much higher. Patrick Nicholls, employment junior minister, said in a Commons written reply.

Smoking cost is £500m

Smoking is estimated to cost the national health service about £500 million a year and smoking-related diseases kill about 110,000 people, Stephen Dorrell, health under-secretary, said in a Commons written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury; prime minister. Motion on Northern Ireland Act extension order. Lords (3): Environmental Protection Bill, committee, seventh day.

Cuts 'forced on Scottish NHS'

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH boards in Scotland have been forced to make cuts in facilities for patients because of government underfunding of pay awards, the Labour party said yesterday.

The party produced figures showing that pay awards for all areas of Scotland excluding Greater Glasgow had been underfunded by £151 million since 1985. As 80 per cent of all health service spending goes on pay, health boards must find any underfunding of wage agreements from the 20 per cent of remaining cash used for treatment and equipment.

Hector MacKenzie, general secretary of the Confederation of Health Service Employees, said that the government might try to end the difficulties of the health service north of the border by introducing the market economy and regional pay awards.

Labour party officials said the underfunding could have paid for the employment of 5,000 nurses or provided an extra 20,000 hip operations annually or 90,000 extra cataract operations a year.

Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, said the underfunding had not been at the expense of the pay of the staff. The people who were cheated by the underfunding were the patients. He said Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, had been dishonest to approve pay awards that the government was not prepared to fund.

Later, during Scottish questions in the Commons, Malcolm Rifkind, Scottish secretary, defended the government's position. He said the government had made available an extra £158 million last year to counter the effects of pay and price increases.

Scholey under attack

SIR Robert Scholey, British Steel chairman, was criticised in the Commons for refusing to meet the Ravenscraig workforce where the hot strip mill is to close with of 750 jobs.

During question time, Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, described Sir Robert's unwillingness to meet the workforce as unfortunate. He had urged Sir Robert to reconsider his stance. "It would be of mutual benefit not only for them to hear his point of view but for him to hear what they have to say," Mr Rifkind said. He had asked the Scottish Development Agency (SDA) to carry out an analysis of the prospects for the steel industry in Scotland.

Dr John Reid (Motherwell North, Lab) said that a letter from Sir Robert (in response to Mr Rifkind's request to justify the decision to close the hot strip mill) was an insult and the "biggest cover-up since Watergate."

Sir Hector Monro (Dumfries, C) said that the letter was quite unacceptable. "We expect much better from the chairman of British Steel."

TIME IS MONEY. SAVE BOTH WITH A FAX FROM DIXONS

PAPER CUTTER
Cuts incoming faxes into pages instead of one long sheet.

FAV/VOICE DETECT
Automatically distinguishes between voice and fax calls, enabling you to operate efficiently with only one telephone line.

ACTIVITY LOG
Prints a list of the most recent incoming and outgoing faxes, giving you a permanent record of the machine's use.

PRINTER INTERFACE
Lets you print from your computer or send faxes without printing them first.

ON-HOOK DIALLING
Dial without lifting handset, leaving your other hand free.

INTEGRAL HANDSET
Removes need for a separate phone, keeping your desk uncluttered.

ANSWERING MACHINE
Combines all your telecommunications needs in one compact unit using one phone line and socket.

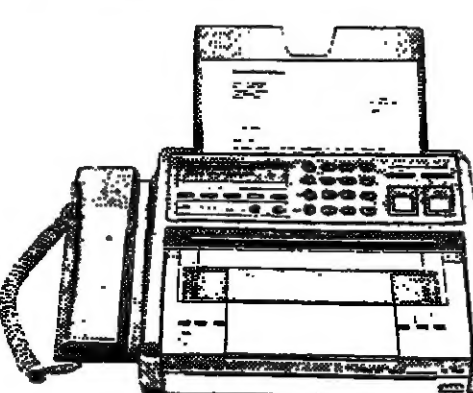
MEMORY DIALLING
Stores your most commonly used numbers for speed dialling.

PHOTOCOPIER
An ideal extra facility for low volumes of photocopying.

AUTO SHEETFEEDER
Lets you send multiple-page documents unattended.

AMSTRAD FX9600AT

TOP-FEATURE FAX, ANSWERING MACHINE, PHONE & COPIER
Automatically switches from Answerphone to Fax function. Top-feature phone. 100-number memory. Auto-page cutting. Mercury-compatible. Low volume photocopy. Plus 12 months on-site service.



AMSTRAD FX5000

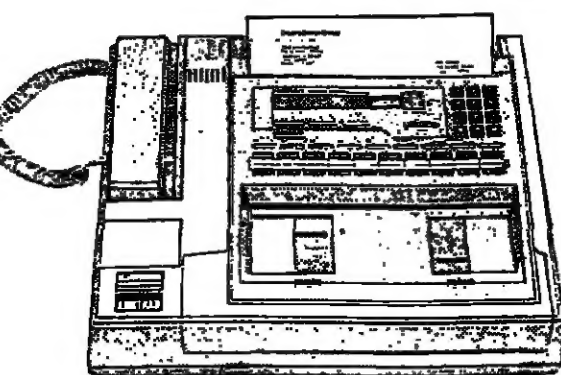
LOWEST PRICE FAX MACHINE & PHONE
Stores your most-used numbers on memory for one-touch or short-code re-dial. 5-page auto document feeder. Timed transmission facility.

Dixons Deal £399 ex-VAT

CANON FAX MACHINE
Compact design fax with 5-page document feeder. Complete with integral telephone handset. Can also be used as a copier. Model: FAX80.

Dixons Deal £499 ex-VAT

ONLY £699 ex-VAT



AMSTRAD FX9600T

FAX AND PHONE
Featuring 10-page document feeder. Auto-page cutting of incoming faxes. 100-number memory for speed dialling. Full-featured Mercury compatible. PC connection port. Personal fax header facility. Plus 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal £599 ex-VAT

FUNAI FAX MACHINE/PHONE
Manual or automatic reception. Talk feature allows conversation at the end of transmission. Last number redial. Can also be used as photo copier. Model: PFX 5800.

Dixons Deal £399 ex-VAT

Here's why you need a fax

THE FASTEST WAY

A fax machine from Dixons will transform your business by letting you send documents in a matter of seconds. An A4 page of text, graphics or plans can even be sent to the other side of the world in around a minute. Compare that to postal or courier delivery times!

COST-EFFECTIVE

Fax costs a fraction of a carrier's charge. Fax is cheaper or the same price as post for single-sheet A4 mail sent in the UK. (Ask in store for details).

FAX IS EASY TO USE

Just plug it into a standard telephone socket and power supply and start faxing!

Here's why you should buy at Dixons

EXCLUSIVE FAX TEST LINE

Just fax us the Test Sheet (supplied with your new machine) on a special number and we'll fax back to you within the hour confirming your machine is installed and operating perfectly. (Available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm).

12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE

All these fax machines include 12 months on-site service. Ask in store for full details.

ASK FOR YOUR DEMONSTRATION TODAY

See our tremendous range of top-brand fax machines in action for yourself. You'll be impressed.

AVAILABLE IN ALL DIXONS BUSINESS CENTRES

AND SELECTED STORES.

081-200 0200 FOR YOUR NEAREST BRANCH.

VAT WILL BE CHARGED AT 15%

BRINGING YOU THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY

Dixons

هكزامن الاصيل

Sri Lankans brace for 'fight to the finish' as deaths soar

From JAMES PRINGLE
IN TRINCOMALEE

WHEN Tamil separatist guerrillas launched sudden attacks on the Sri Lankan army and police early last month the Sri Lankan government found itself on unaccustomed territory — the moral high ground.

Long the subject of human rights complaints from Western governments and agencies for its ruthless suppression of ethnic and political unrest, the Colombo government was clearly seen this time to have been treacherously deceived.

There had been a truce with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for more than a year while negotiations went ahead towards providing Sri Lanka's Tamil minority with greater autonomy. Most diplomats in Colombo felt that the government of President Premadasa was making generous concessions in an effort to reach a peaceful solution to Sri Lanka's seven-year-old civil war.

"The Tigers could have got everything

they wanted at the negotiating table," a Western diplomat in Colombo said in puzzlement after the attacks.

Now over 100 Tamil Tigers have been killed this week as fighting continues between the Tamil rebels and Sri Lanka's security forces in the island's Northern and Eastern provinces.

Fighting continues around the Jaffna fort in the northern province, where 200 security men have been besieged for three weeks.

Much needed food, ammunition and medical supplies were delivered when a helicopter landed for a few minutes this week. Earlier attempts to get medical aid and food to them have been only partially successful as the Tigers virtually surround the fort. Amid heavy gunfire, seven injured security personnel were airlifted from the fort.

A communiqué from the presidential secretariat said that 260 armed services and police personnel have been killed so far in the latest fighting while 640 are missing in action. President Premadasa, it added, intends to visit each soldier and policeman in hospital.

The nature of the Tigers' offensive has appalled most Sri Lankans, including many Tamils, and the foreign community. The Tigers entered police stations after the police had been ordered to lay down their arms. In many cases, the police were driven to forest clearings, made to lie down, then shot. More than 158 bodies have been found so far, and 650 policemen are still missing, presumed dead.

A government spokesman, in calling troops into action, made clear the fight was not against the Tamils, who make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million population, but against the Tigers.

Diplomats here give high marks to the discipline of the armed forces, which have come a long way from the excesses of the past.

However, more than three weeks after the latest round of fighting started the distinctions are beginning to become blurred. The outspoken defence minister, Ranjan Wijeratne, has announced that this is to be "a fight to the finish". There are growing fears that the civilian population, especially the Tamil minor-

ity, will get caught up in it. Already, police both in Trincomalee and in the nearby village of Inginiyagala have taken the law into their own hands. In Inginiyagala, the police remained inside their station while a Sinhalese mob doused Tamil adults and children with petrol and set them ablaze, or beat them to death.

In a move that has increased the collective paranoia of the Tamils in Trincomalee the police have been put in charge of public security. "We have told them to behave themselves and we will keep an eye on them," said Lucky Wijeratne, commander of the Trincomalee military district.

A senior military officer in Colombo said: "Quite frankly we've no choice. We are short of army troops and we need them to fight the Tigers."

There are other disquieting signs of trouble ahead. Hooded informers are pointing the finger in impromptu identification parades at Tiger suspects in Batticaloa, a small port south of here.

The most worrying incident so far apparently occurred on June 22 near the

town of Nilaveli north of Trincomalee. The Tamils recounted how non-combatant men, women and children were told by the army to shelter in the building of a mill, while the troops flushed out Tigers in town.

"We were assured we would be secure," said one woman here. "But when we all gathered in the mill, the army started firing artillery at the building and one shell scored a direct hit, killing 40 people and wounding many more."

What appears to be corroboration of her story came from a hospital, Point Pedro, in the Tiger-controlled Jaffna peninsula. There women, some of them minus limbs, said that they had been in the same mill when it was shelled by the army.

They gave the death toll as 57 and they said they had been evacuated by sea by the Tigers, "because Tamils do not get to go to hospital" in the Trincomalee area. "This is still very definitely a war against the Tigers but the edges are going to become hazy," noted one Western diplomat in Colombo this week. "A lot

of innocent people on both sides might be killed."

Another diplomat said: "Up until now the army has acted with commendable restraint but it will become more and more difficult to control the army and police as their casualties mount."

So far the government earns high marks for keeping the situation under control in the rest of Sri Lanka. There has been no serious outbreak of communal violence in the south, such as the anti-Tamil pogroms of 1983 in which up to one thousand people died as security forces stood by.

Driving through Sri Lanka's warm tropical night, the traveller sees the bodies of the army dead being delivered to their homes in small villages before dawn. Funerals are conducted with suitable respect, but no fanfare, so as not to fan the fires of ethnic and religious unrest between the Buddhist Sinhalese and the mainly Hindu Tamils.

For that relative peace to continue, everything now hangs on the discipline of the army as it attempts to flush out the Tigers from their booby-trapped lairs.

Pressure mounts on Pretoria to end civil war in Natal

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

A WEEK of black industrial action in South Africa is going ahead against the background of increasing murder and intimidation between the African National Congress and its Zulu rivals.

The declared aim is to put pressure on the government to stop what amounts to civil war between followers of Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the chief minister of KwaZulu tribal homeland, and township residents who broadly support the ANC and its affiliates. Chief Buthelezi, however, views it as simply a flexing of ANC muscles intended to isolate his conservative Inkatha movement.

The campaign began on Monday when several landmines exploded on railway lines in the Transvaal. They had been placed in an appar-

ent attempt to force black workers to support the nationwide work "stayaway".

Police also reported other attempts to ensure the success of the week of action. Petrol bombs and stones were thrown at buses and taxis taking people to work from Soweto, and roadblocks were put up in Natal. After reports of drivers and commuters being physically threatened, the security forces provided transport for thousands of black workers in the Pietermaritzburg area of Natal.

The ANC and Cosatu, the trade union federation, dismissed the allegations of intimidation, claiming that three million workers had obeyed the strike call in an unequivocal demonstration of support for their policies. Chief Buthelezi took a dif-

ferent view. "There has been no victory for the ANC and Cosatu, there has only been political thuggery," he said. "People are dead, others have been maimed, homes have been burned down, wages have been lost. How can they dare claim success when people have died as a direct result of their actions?"

It is generally accepted that black political activists use intimidation. There have, for instance, been reports of black women who ignore boycotts of white-owned shops being forced to eat and drink their purchases, ranging from cooking oil to lavatory cleaners.

The response of Adrian Vlok, the law and order minister, has been to seek legislation to curb intimidation. His spokesman said it was difficult to obtain convictions under existing law, because witnesses were frequently subjected to additional intimidation.

The ANC's South African Youth Congress is outraged by the move. "Any attempt by the government to introduce such a repressive law, or any other law that is designed to entrench the decaying system of white domination, will be greeted by massive revolts and resistance more devastating than the stayaway," a spokesman said.

Alex Boraine, the director of a liberal lobby group committed to ending apartheid, sees ambivalence in ANC attitudes to violence. "So long as they continue to emphasise the need for continuing the armed struggle, it is impossible for them to urge with conviction the end of violence in Natal or anywhere else," he said.

Apart from the protest action over the violence in Natal, which is to culminate in marches on police headquarters in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town at the weekend, much else has been happening in the absence of Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president.

Right-wing terrorism and the unending strife in black communities has raised political violence to its highest level. The most recent victim was Max du Preez, the liberal Afrikaans editor whose newspaper offices were damaged by a bomb yesterday. He later received a death threat.

Wit Wolwe ("White Wolves"), an extremist clandestine group, has claimed responsibility for similar attacks on ruling National party offices, the homes of Johannesburg city councillors and a synagogue, and has vowed to continue them.

Small wonder that Mr Mandela's concern about the conflict in Northern Ireland, and the fate of North American Indians is looked on with some bemusement here. The general view is that there are more pressing issues requiring his attention at home.



Home from home: the president-elect of Peru, Alberto Fujimori, tucking into a traditional Japanese dish of sushi at the home of his uncle, Tomiya Inomoto, after he and his wife Susanna were welcomed yesterday in Kawachi, the rural town in Kumamoto, Japan, where his parents were born. On his arrival at Kumamoto,

560 miles southwest of Tokyo, Mr Fujimori was met at the airport by Governor Morihito Hosokawa and Shunji Shimadzu, mayor of Kawachi. Mr Fujimori's family left 60 years ago to seek a better life in Peru. A parade was planned for Mr Fujimori. Peru's first president of Japanese descent. (AFP)

Rotting algae brings new threat to troubled Venice

From PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME

TRUE to form, the story of Venice passes swiftly from one drama to the next. Soon after its narrow escape from becoming the site of the Expo 2000 world fair, and only two weeks after it was invaded on a single day by 75,000 tourists from Eastern Europe, the city of the Doges is threatened by rotting algae which fills the air with the smell of bad eggs.

"It is a little better now," Ermilio Chiozzotto, the city's technical director for the environment, said yesterday. "But on Sunday you could smell the rotting seaweed all the way to Padua."

Algae in the Laguna decomposes, producing the gas hydrogen sulphide, which drifts inland to blend with other smells from the city's silted-up smaller canals.

"We are at the mercy of wind and weather," lamented Signor Chiozzotto. "The worst days, if there is good weather, will be July 15 and July 29, when the tide will be lowest. Of course, if this coincides

with low temperatures, rough seas and a good blow of the bora, it may be all right."

At present, a dozen boats collect the algae. In the past three and a half months they have raked up 40,000 cubic metres of weed, which has been taken to the mainland to be converted into fertiliser. The cost has been a massive 12 billion lire (\$6 million), or £150 for every cubic metre.

As Signor Chiozzotto pointed out, this stop-gap measure does not eliminate the causes of the abnormal algae growth, thought to be a combination of water pollution, hot and still weather and a reduced circulation of water in the Laguna because of the silting up of certain channels.

Last weekend the concentration of hydrogen sulphide reached 200 parts per billion for the first time: well short of the 1,000 parts per billion set as a health hazard by the World Health Organisation, but enough to tarnish cutlery. Arrigo Cipriani, the

proprietor of Harry's Bar and one of Venice's best known personalities, views the problem calmly, possibly because his bar faces the open sea and the strongest breeze. "It is nothing new," he said. "In July if there is no wind there is inevitably the stench of rotten eggs. The next day a little bora comes up and the smell disappears."

Another source of bad smells may soon be eliminated. The smaller and shallower canals, which in summer often become channels of putrid slime, were emptied regularly until the 1960s. "For the past 30 years we could not dry out and clean the small canals because nobody wanted the mud dumped in their area," said Signor Chiozzotto. "Now we have established that this mud is not toxic and have obtained permission to dump it. We are planning a rotation system so that each little canal is dried out and cleaned every five or six years."

Rebels want to put Doe on trial

From AFP
IN ABIDJAN

LIBERIAN rebels rejected an offer by President Doe to resign, and said they wished him luck if a foreign country offered him sanctuary. But they warned that they would try to get to him first.

Mr Doe, who seized power in a bloody military coup in the West African country in 1980, had said on Tuesday that he was, in principle, ready to go if his own security and that of his Krahn people were guaranteed. But diplomatic sources reached from Abidjan said that the rebels had rejected the offer.

Tom WoWeiyu, a rebel spokesman contacted in the United States, said: "He has caused too much death and destruction. It's our hope he will remain in Liberia and stand trial for his crimes." But he added: "If a foreign country, for instance America, takes him out before we find him, good luck to him!"

Mr WoWeiyu also said on Tuesday that the National Patriotic Front of Liberia rebels were in control of three-quarters of Monrovia, the Liberian capital.

Residents in Monrovia were caught in crossfire yesterday as the rebels closed in.

By Tuesday night, the rebels had infiltrated the suburbs of the capital, while streets closer to the city centre were being roamed by trigger-happy government troops with no apparent leadership, the foreign diplomats said.

In spite of attempts by what remained of the Liberian government to stop arbitrary killings, troops were said to be murdering members of the Gio and Mano tribes that supplied most of the rebel forces.

There have been numerous reports from refugees that the rebels have set up people's tribunals handing out death sentences in northern Liberia since they launched their incursion in Nimba County last December 24.

Other reports have spoken of summary executions of mainly Krahn people in eastern Liberia. The war has claimed at least 5,000 lives, while tens of thousands of refugees have fled to neighbouring countries.

The United States has publicly promised to help Mr Doe if he steps down and asks to leave the country.

His wife and their six children have been in London for six weeks.

The rebels, led by Charles Taylor, a former civil servant, have promised free elections within six months and respect for all ethnic groups, but many people fear bloody reprisals against the Krahn.

Foreign ministers from Gambia, Mali, Nigeria, Togo, Sierra Leone and Guinea were due to meet today in Freetown, Sierra Leone, to work towards a political settlement, officials in Sierra Leone confirmed yesterday.

Scourge of 'the Terror' returns

From JAMES BONE
IN PARIS

AFTER last year's nationalist extravaganza marking the bicentennial of the French revolution, France is preparing this year for a more sombre Bastille Day.

Alongside the usual celebrations of "liberté, égalité et fraternité" will be an unpleasant reminder of "la Terreur". Two days before the holiday on June 14, the body of one of the revolution's least loved and most forgotten revolutionary figures will be returned to his homeland.

Marc Guillaume Alexis Vadier, president of the notorious Committee of General Security during the Terror, and now dubbed by the popular press the "top cop of the revolution", will be re-interred on his old estate 162 years after dying in exile in Belgium.

Vadier was an obscure functionary in southwestern France when he was elected as a representative of the third estate in 1789. He became one of the first to call for the overthrow of the monarchy, and was among the 366 deputies who voted to execute Louis XVI in January 1793. In January 1794 he was appointed to the Committee of General Security, one of two committees that ran the country with an iron hand.

He set about his task zealously, working 18 hours a day. His philosophy was summed up: "The circumstances demand it, there have to be examples, let's cut off some heads."

In one year the committee ordered 1,814 arrests, many of which ended on the guillotine, and Vadier earned the nickname "Demon of the South". Vadier took on "that fat stuffed fish" Danton, and when Danton was executed in April 1794, Vadier turned his attention to Robespierre. On 27 July, 1794, Vadier declared: "I was the first to demand the head of the tyrant king; I was the first to expose Danton; well, it has been difficult for me to believe that Robespierre aspires to tyranny, but I do." The next day Robespierre, too, died on the guillotine.

Finally, Vadier was himself denounced and imprisoned, and in 1816 he was forced into exile in Belgium, where he died in 1828 at the age of 92. His lawyer and historian Gilles Dussert stumbled on his grave 12 years ago in Brussels. Stuck on the headstone was an official notice threatening to close the site because it was not being maintained.

Despite all the festivities on Bastille Day, the French have never been keen on the darker side of the Revolution. But M Dussert overcame the national taboo, and persuaded the authorities to allow Vadier to be reburied at his estate at Peyroulet in l'Aniège, the department he created on the Spanish border.

Bardot comes to the aid of seals

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

TIMELY intervention by Brigitte Bardot has earned a reprieve for 30,000 seals which were about to be clubbed and stabbed to death in South Africa to provide fur coats, dog meat and sex aids for the Far East market.

Mme Bardot, the former actress and a vociferous animal rights campaigner, condemned the impending slaughter in an open letter to President de Klerk, and offered to "buy" the seals for £13,000. The government announced yesterday that the cull had been suspended "in the light of missgivings about the procedure". Gert Kotze, the environment minister, said he would assess objections before reaching a final decision.

Unimpressed black commentators have noted that the export of bull seal genitals to improve the sex lives of orientals has outraged whites more than the shooting of demonstrators in black townships. A letter to a Johannesburg newspaper yesterday said: "With reference to the murdering of seals, I am stunned that apophisians are to be sent to the East where there are already too many Chinese."

Wildlife protection groups have been inundated by concerned citizens offering to "buy" the seals, angry protests have been staged outside government offices, and activists have been preparing to take to the sea in rubber dinghies to confront the hunters and to paint the seals' skins green. The Seal Action Group said yesterday it would go ahead with planned protests.

Activists point out that financial considerations are negligible. The Taiwanese

consortium, which has a five-year culling contract, will pay a levy of 20 cents a seal to the Department of Sea Fisheries. The 25,000 pups and 5,000 bulls allocated for the three-month season, due to begin in the western Cape on July 15, would thus swell the South African treasury by £1,347.

Beatrice Wiltshire of Earthlife Africa dismissed economic arguments in favour of a seal processing plant. "The factory would provide work for 54 people for four months. Brothels and bank robberies also provide work," she said.

The sea fisheries department is not impressed. "Seals should be used like any other marine resource," it said. "If we did not use our natural resources we might be accused of bad management."

The government is supported by the Wildlife Society of Southern Africa, which says there are too many seals in the area and their huge consumption of fish is threatening rarer species such as jackass penguins and bank cormorants.

Ron Thomson, an ecologist and the author of a book on wildlife conservation, estimates there are more than a million seals along the southern Africa coast and said "emotional fanatics" were misrepresenting the issue. The culling was not as horrific as it sounded, he said. "The skulls of seal pups are extremely fragile, and one well-placed blow to the head kills them instantly."

Blacks appear unmoved by the controversy. An editorial in a township newspaper observed: "How ironic that the outcry against the clubbing of seals far outweighs that against the clubbing of passive (black) demonstrators."



Bardot wrote to de Klerk condemning the slaughter and offering to buy the seals for £13,000

Appliance of science highlights Sphinx dilemma

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN CAIRO

AFTER years of searching for ways to fight the evils of sewage, a rising water table, and chronic air pollution, Egyptian experts now believe they may have discovered a more prosaic cause for the troubles which have recently beset the 4,600-year-old Sphinx: dynamite.

A group of leading scientists yesterday issued an urgent appeal for the authorities to close 24 quarries in the vicinity of the ancient man-cat which guards the pyramids at Giza, 15km (nine miles) west of the capital.

The appeal was made after a study by the Astronomical and Geophysical Research Institute. It was one of several scientific investigations to try to answer the riddle of how to save the monument from the ravages of time.

Alarm bells began to ring in earnest early in 1988 when a 660lb

chunk of the Sphinx's right shoulder plummeted mysteriously to the ground, leading to the dismissal of the chairman of the Egyptian Antiquities Association, Ahmad Kadry.

The latest contribution to the debate on how best to preserve the Sphinx comes only a few months after embarrassed Egyptian authorities admitted that restoration work carried out between 1982 and 1987 was faulty and would have to be redone.

The debate has since been intensified by a proposal from Unesco that a wall up to six metres high should be built around the Sphinx and the pyramids to control tourists and stop encroachment from nearby villages.

The plan, which has been opposed by many Cairenes who see their lucrative takings from tourists under threat, also proposed a virtual ban on motor traffic and the removal of asphalt roads and build-

ings from the site. As the experts continue to argue, one of the few things they agree on is the sad fact that the Sphinx — which was first the subject of a known rescue bid some 3,400 years ago — has deteriorated more in the past 50 years than in the previous 50 centuries.

One of the main problems facing conservationists is the poor quality of the 50 million-year-old rock from which the monument is carved. It is made up of three layers of limestone, and while the head with its enigmatic smile is relatively stable, the body below is soft and crumbling.

Describing the problems which have so far eluded archaeologists and prompted increasing concern inside the Egyptian government, Omar Arini, an Egyptian archaeological chemist, explained: "It is not just an old building that you are going to refurbish and renovate. Basically, you are dealing with a

lousy rock that has been a lousy rock forever."

Since May, hopes have been pinned on the diagnostic skills of the California-based Getty Conservation Institute. It has linked with the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation to mount a 12-month monitoring programme which combines modern technology with a study of photographs of the Sphinx, dating back to the middle of the last century when only its head protruded from the sand.

Central to the project is a solar-powered meteorological station, standing 6½ ft tall and resembling a high-tech weather-vane, which now sits astride the back of the Sphinx anchored by sandbags. Its job is to collect information which may help preserve the remaining stonework.

Data on natural and manmade forces, ranging from traffic vibrations to earthquakes, are being transmitted by computer to a nearby

antiquities organisation off the study, which is costing \$ (£115,000). The organisation's chairman, Sayed Tawad, said that before the Cal institute agreed to undertake the study, it had been Egyptian experts to find other prepared to put up financial technical help, because of a fear of being blamed if it went wrong. "We have a lot to learn from the 'Father of Terror'."

Mrs Luis Monreal, director of the Getty Institute, which is similar work in China's G and at an Inca temple in Peru, said: "You have to understand the Sphinx has been around for almost 5,000 years and has been covered with sand about 500 times."

"Since it was last used in 1925, it has been exposed to modern world 24 hours a day and it is suffering."

Nato leaders face summit rift over future role

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NATO leaders at today's summit in London are preparing for serious disagreements over some of the most important issues now facing the alliance in its attempts to adapt to changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

The summit is not expected to be confined to a single issue, as was the meeting in Brussels in March last year when the alliance was split over short-range nuclear missiles. There is concern that there will be a split between the soft-line countries, which want NATO to be wound down and its security responsibilities taken over by the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), and the harder-headed members who insist that the CSCE should be merely complementary to the alliance.

The Soviet Union has said it wants the CSCE, consisting of the United States, Canada and all the European countries except Albania, to become the new pan-European security structure, and for both NATO and the Warsaw Pact to be abolished.

Despite the potential scope for disagreement, all 16 NATO members acknowledge that the summit will need to produce a communiqué by tomorrow which confirms to the rest of the world, and particularly to Moscow, that NATO is eager to move into the post-Cold War era.

The four issues threatening to cause trouble before such a communiqué can be agreed are the role of a reconstituted CSCE, the objectives for the next round of the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) negotiations, future arms-control strategies, and nuclear deterrence. A fifth subject, the developing relationship between West and East, could also produce widely different views.

British officials hope the disagreements over the future of the conference will not be too disruptive at the summit. It is more likely that the real row will come at a later stage. Officials from the 35 conference members are to meet this month to begin detailed discussions to prepare for the CSCE summit, expected to be in Paris in November.

Some of the smaller NATO countries, however, are likely to clash with the United States and Britain, which believe the conference should never replace NATO, although both Washington and London are

happy to see it take on a higher profile. This would include the setting up of a small, permanent secretariat, with regular meetings of the 35 foreign ministers, and an arbitration service which would mediate in internal European conflicts.

President Bush and Margaret Thatcher are expected to emphasise in their opening speeches today that NATO as an alliance has a vital future role to play in maintaining security and stability in Europe. Mr Bush will speak first, followed by President Mitterrand of France and, soon afterwards, Mrs Thatcher.

NATO leaders will find it difficult to agree on the way arms cuts in Europe should be handled. Assuming a conventional force treaty is signed this year on cuts in heavy armaments, Britain wants the second phase to concentrate on adapting to German unification and all-round lower troop levels.

After that, the British government believes, CFE should be closed down and replaced by a new negotiating format. Some NATO leaders are said to want the CFE negotiating process, with NATO lined up opposite the Warsaw Pact, to continue, but this bloc-to-bloc arrangement has already been undermined at the present talks in Vienna because of the independent positions taken by East European countries, especially Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The most important task for the NATO leaders is to give final guidelines for the strategic review of all alliance policies, including forward defence and nuclear deterrence, which is to be carried out by alliance officials.

Since the review is expected to take as much as a year to complete, it will be vital for the summit to set out the objectives clearly to show Moscow that the alliance is transforming itself into a more political organisation.

One senior British official said yesterday: "This is not a pre-cooked summit. In many ways we're starting with blank sheets of paper."

The two-day summit is being held in Lancaster House, the 19th-century mansion at the end of Pall Mall which was the location of the negotiations which eventually resolved the Rhodesian crisis in 1979.

Leading article, page 13



President Bush, flanked by Dan Quayle, the American vice-president, emerging from a morning meeting with advisers at his home in Kennebunkport, Maine, as he prepared for today's Nato conference in London and the economic summit in Houston, Texas, next week

Kohl and Genscher wrestle over alliance

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

AS THE Nato summit opens in London today the German leadership has differing but complementary priorities.

For Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, the essential requirement for continued security and stability is to ensure that the United States does not pull out of Europe. For Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his foreign minister, the paramount need to create a peaceful future is to bring the Soviet Union into Europe.

Although all are now agreed that the way forward for NATO is to become more and more political as an organisation, the future military strength of the alliance is at the heart of the argument. If it is too strong, Herr Genscher fears the Soviet Union will feel dangerously isolated and the reform processes there will be at risk. If it is too weak, with insufficient support from European forces, Herr Kohl fears that President Bush will be unable to resist growing public pressure in the US to make significant reductions.

The US administration, battling to contain a huge budget deficit, could make popular cuts by reducing its defence spending, and NATO is a prime target.

General Vernon Walters, the American ambassador in Bonn, likes to point out that the United States spends three times as much on NATO as West Germany does on its entire defence budget. His message is clear: America will

spend less and Europe must spend more.

The chancellor, who has struck up a good personal relationship with Mr Bush, is prepared for American forces in Germany to be reduced progressively to no more than 300,000 instead of the present 239,000. This would be popular with the German electorate, but the US would be unlikely to leave such a small force without an adequate nuclear umbrella to protect it and without strong, well-equipped European forces alongside.

Herr Kohl can therefore be in little doubt that if he wants to be sure the US will stay, NATO must keep a nuclear deterrent and European nations will have to shoulder a greater proportion of its cost.

Herr Genscher, on the other hand, feels that the time has come to change the security structures of Europe to match the changes in the political landscape. Although he accepts that NATO has been a successful security alliance, he regards it as having done its defensive job and to be now an organisation needed largely to press disarmament initiatives and arms controls. He sees it as being no more than a nucleus of a European super-structure in which ultimately it would be absorbed. He accepts that it is not yet time for NATO's dissolution, but wants the Soviet Union to be able to look on it as a friend.

At last month's Nato coun-

cil meeting in Turnberry the alliance did agree to hold out the hand of friendship to the Soviet Union. "We stretched out our hand, but the hand was empty," one diplomat here said. "We have got to put something in this hand."

Herr Genscher wants that to be a final statement which will mark a new era of co-operation instead of confrontation, with the institutionalisation of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) as the cornerstone of the new security structure for the entire continent, which will render NATO obsolete.

"It is absolutely essential not to isolate the Soviet Union," the diplomatic source said. "We know because we were isolated before the second world war, and look what



Genscher: lacks Kohl's commitment to Nato

happened as a result. It is not a good idea to make the Soviet Union a loser of the peace. It is necessary to bind her in and make her responsible."

As German reunification draws nearer, the foreign minister has therefore noticeably lacked the same public commitment to NATO as that given by Herr Kohl.

The Chancellor is much clearer. "A united Germany is part of the Western community of shared values," he said in a recent interview with *Time* magazine. "We cannot accept anything less... I am for membership of a united Germany in NATO and I am strictly against having Germany singled out."

Horst Teltschik, the Chancellor's "kitchen cabinet" adviser on foreign affairs, has emphasised that national security depends on NATO membership even if there is a very different kind of NATO to the present one. "A united Germany must definitely remain a member of the Atlantic alliance," Herr Teltschik wrote in a recent article. "How else is Germany to guarantee its security in the face of a Soviet Union that, as a nuclear power, will continue to maintain strong armed forces for domestic reasons and to protect its borders? On grounds of sheer size, the Soviet Union will continue to be a security risk for the rest of Europe. But tomorrow's NATO will be a far cry from today's, once disarmament talks have

been brought to a successful conclusion and political changes make headway in Europe and the Soviet Union."

Herr Genscher is not so happy about this heavy emphasis on NATO and he is worried that the Soviet Union is being frightened by the Chancellor's rhetoric. The foreign minister still remembers the painful three hours he spent in 1986 with Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, trying to explain away the Chancellor's gaffe in an interview with *Newsweek* when he compared President Gorbachev to Goebbels. Herr Genscher had to work even harder this year to persuade Herr Kohl to accept the present western border of Poland.

The Chancellor makes little secret of the fact that he thinks Herr Genscher is inclined to do his own thing. The Chancellor resents the way his foreign minister tries to implement West German foreign policy without proper consultation. Herr Kohl forcefully showed this in May after Herr Genscher announced that a united Germany was prepared to surrender its sovereignty for a number of years in the interests of quick unity. He quickly slapped down the foreign minister in the Bundestag, saying firmly that a united Germany would be a sovereign Germany from the start.

Jobs on the line, page 23

Parties agree on German poll date

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

WEST Germany's three ruling coalition parties agreed here yesterday that the first pan-German election should be held on December 2, the date put forward on Monday night by the ruling East German coalition.

In agreeing the date, Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, revealed his confidence that all the external security issues of reunification will by then have been settled. These centre on the NATO membership of a united Germany and the stationing of Soviet troops in East Germany.

Herr Kohl, who hopes to be the first chancellor of a reunited Germany, is to see President Gorbachev in Moscow next week. He is confident that Soviet objections and concerns on the security questions can be overcome.

While the date of the election is now fixed, however, the rules under which it will be fought are far from certain, with coalition partners disagreeing about how the poll should be organised and exactly when reunification should take place.

The rules for the election are crucial to the victory hopes of all sides. The essential question is whether or not there should be two parallel elections, with each of the present countries following its existing rules, or whether there should be a single election using just the West German proportional representation system, in which a party must get 5 per cent of the vote to win seats.

For their first free election last March, the East Germans decided that seats in the Volkskammer would be allotted to parties in each area according to how many votes they received, regardless of what percentage this represented. This meant that each candidate needed only 22,000 votes to be elected.

If the 5 per cent hurdle were to be introduced across both countries as a whole, then a party would need more than two million votes before it would qualify for seats. If it were to be introduced separately in each country, a party in East Germany would need to win 375,000 votes there to be represented.

In either event, smaller East German parties, including the radical intellectual groups which did so much to create the atmosphere for the peaceful revolution, would probably fail to win a seat. One suggested solution is to reward them by lowering the East German hurdle to 3 per cent to give them a better chance.

Defector exposes chink in Castro's armour

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

SINCE the fall of the Berlin Wall, foreign policy experts have watched Cuba for signs of erosion in its communist rule. Despite reports of defections by civilian and military officials, the Caribbean island has stood firm. This week, however, a chink appeared in the armour of Fidel Castro, the president, when a senior official defected from Moscow by driving to Madrid with his family and flying to Miami.

The Spanish daily *El Nuevo Herald* said the US immigration service understood that Ramón González Vergara, aged 46, arrived in Florida on Tuesday. Señor González was the

deputy minister of Cuba's state committee for prices, with the rank of ambassador.

He is believed to have information about Soviet aid to Cuba and other countries. He told the conservative *ABC* daily in Madrid he had served as the leading negotiator of Soviet aid and that earlier this year President Castro had named him deputy secretary of Comecon, which co-ordinates the economic policies of the Soviet bloc. Comecon's headquarters are in Moscow. It deals with the economies of Warsaw Pact members as well as Mongolia and Vietnam.

Moscow gives Cuba an estimated \$4 billion to \$5 billion (£2.25 billion to £2.75 billion) in aid a year. In an interview with *ABC*, Señor González

predicted that the aid would take a "very different form" next year, given the Soviet Union's economic woes as President Gorbachev struggles to implement his perestroika reforms against growing public anger at domestic food shortages.

The United States is expected to offer Señor González political asylum and he reportedly has relatives in Miami, which has a strong anti-Castro community. *ABC* said he was under the protection of the CIA in Miami.

A security official at Miami's international airport said that Señor González arrived on an Iberia flight from Madrid on Tuesday afternoon and was taken through a side door. In Madrid, according to a spokesman for a Miami-based Cuban-American

organization, Señor González took refuge in the US embassy and stayed in a flat under tight security.

About four-fifths of Cuba's trade is with members of the Soviet bloc. American foreign policy experts have predicted that Comecon will eventually be shaken up to allow freer trade with Western nations. Cuba has no hard currency of its own and manufactures little of tradeable value.

● PANAMA CITY: The government yesterday ordered all Cuban embassy personnel other than the charge d'affaires, the commercial and economic attaches and the consul to leave the country within 10 days. The embassy has been a strong critic of the government of President Guillermo Endara. (AP)

Schoolgirl from UK kidnapped

NICOLA Lynas, a British schoolgirl aged 13, has been kidnapped at knife and gunpoint in Australia only days before her family were to return home (Our Foreign Staff writes). Police did not say where in Britain the family were from.

The masked kidnapper seized the girl after breaking into her home in a Melbourne suburb. Detectives fear the abduction may be linked to the kidnapping of another girl aged 13 18 months ago.

Nicola and her sister, Fiona, aged 15, were alone while their parents were out on Monday night. Her abductor burst into the sleeping girls' bedroom about 11.40pm tying Fiona up before frog-marching Nicola from the room.

Cyprus asks to join EC

Brussels — Cyprus yesterday formally applied to join the European Community (Michael Binyon writes). George Ioannou, the Cyprus foreign minister, made the application when he met Gianni De Michelis, his Italian counterpart.

Other Community members made it clear that Cyprus was unlikely to be admitted as long as it remained divided. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said the issue was not straightforward as there was still "unfinished business" on the island. The government in Nicosia had to take this into account.

Warning over exit of Jews

Kuwait — The Soviet ambassador to the United Nations said Moscow would block the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel if the government failed to provide firm guarantees that they would not be settled in the occupied territories.

Yuri Vorontsov, in Moscow for the Soviet Communist party congress, told the Kuwaiti News Agency that Soviet Jews would still be able to leave, but not for Israel. (Reuters)

More aid offered to East Europe

From MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

THE group of 24 nations giving help to Poland and Hungary formally extended its aid to four more East European countries yesterday.

East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia were told by foreign ministers of the donor countries that they, as well as Poland and Hungary, could benefit from extensive training and know-how programmes, agricultural, environmental and industrial aid. Western investment and restructuring — provided they continued political and economic reforms.

Romania was pointedly not invited to yesterday's meeting. The ministers, who condemned the recent violent suppression of dissent, said the new government had not fulfilled the necessary conditions.

East Germany's participation will be temporary, pending unification. The 24 members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development discussed extending aid to the Soviet Union, but remained divided on whether or how this should be done.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German foreign minister, raised the issue, saying that, unless generous help was given, perestroika would fail. But James Baker, the US secretary of state, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, both ruled out any immediate cash transfusion.

Yesterday's meeting expressed only lukewarm support for a plan by the commission, which is co-ordinating all aid efforts, to set up a £7 m reserve fund for the four new aid recipients. The money would be used so that Eastern Europe could start paying for Soviet imports in hard currency, and to prevent a collapse of trade within the former Eastern bloc.

The money would be in addition to the £7 million already available in grants, aid and stand-by funds to Poland and Hungary. Britain and the US opposed the idea. Mr Hurd warned of the danger of duplicating with the International Monetary Fund.

VEHICLE SAFETY RECALL

Yugo cars converted by Dealers to run on unleaded fuel, are being recalled due to a possible safety fault related to that conversion. The new Sana model is not affected. Any owner of a Yugo car (excluding SANA) which has been converted to run on unleaded fuel should immediately contact their nearest Yugo Dealer, so that the necessary checks and modifications can be carried out on a free of charge basis.

WALLACE HEATON

Record The World Cup Final while watching the Centre Court from Edgbaston.

With so many great sporting events taking place simultaneously, how on earth can the sports-lover avoid missing out?

The answer is to be found at Wallace Heaton in the shape of Hitachi's brilliant new portable TV and video.

While watching the Test match, simply keep an eye on Wimbledon via the superb 5" (visible screen size 12.5cm) LCD TV screen, while capturing the World Cup action on the fully programmable VHS video recorder for later viewing.

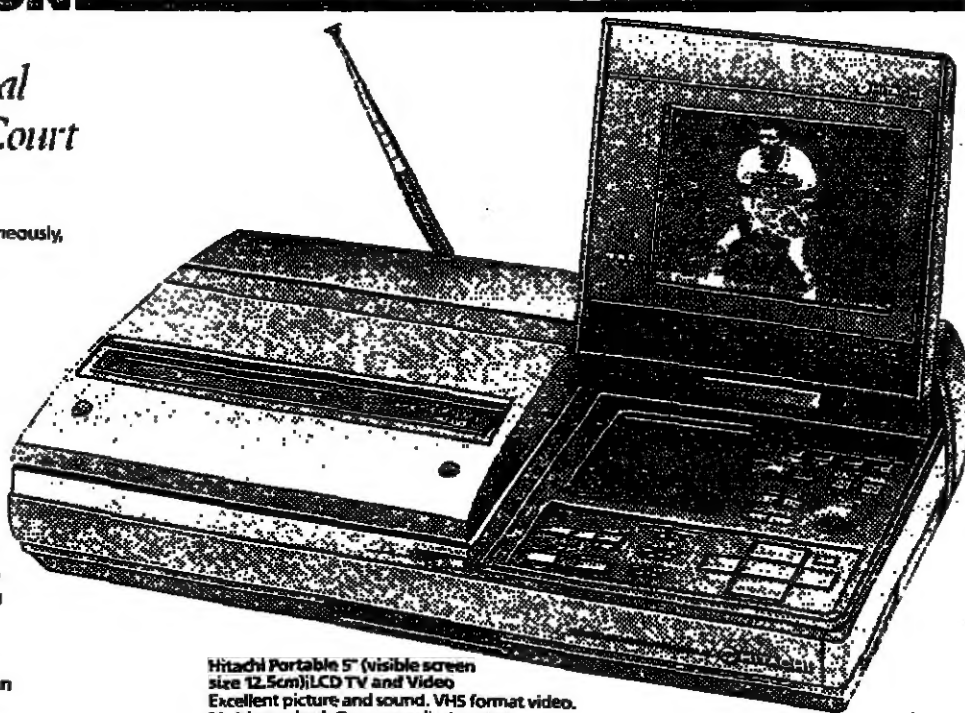
And whenever you're abroad, on business or pleasure, the multi-standard specification lets you watch or record TV in every country from France to Japan.

Call in for your demonstration today. Our expert staff are uniquely qualified to answer your questions, or show you anything else in our superior range of TVs, video, Hi-Fi, cameras or binoculars.

Alternatively, phone us without delay and we'll arrange an immediate delivery of the Hitachi. In time for the cricket, tennis and football.



WALLACE HEATON
7 New Bond Street, London W1 Telephone: 071-499 8307



Hitachi Portable 5" (visible screen size 12.5cm) LCD TV and Video. Excellent picture and sound. VHS format video. Multi-standard. On-screen display. Wake-up timer. Suitable as video camera monitor. Mainly battery-car battery operation. Model VT-1550EM. Wallace Heaton price £1299

Technology and service par excellence.

مكتبة الأصيل

Gorbachev appears secure amid party feuding

FROM REUTER IN MOSCOW

WHILE conservative delegates to the Soviet Communist party congress yesterday denounced the radical, President Gorbachev appeared secure in his position between the party's feuding right and left wings.

Mr Gorbachev, who is also party chief and must stand for re-election next week, sought to play down the clear division in ranks, on the third day of the 28th party congress which could decide the future of Soviet communism itself. He said: "No one at the congress has called into doubt the political course of perestroika (restructuring). That is the main thing."

Mr Gorbachev said the congress showed the concerns of all people, not just that of communists. It reflected people's "desire for a more direct approach."

Hard-liners, mourning the decline of the party's once-uncontested power, seemed in truculent mood yesterday, but they have said they would support Mr Gorbachev's continued party leadership, due to be decided at the congress next week.

The conservatives almost drowned out the moderate Moscow party chief, Yuri Prokofiev, with repeated bursts of rhythmic hand-clapping. Others focused their fire on the ideology chief, Vadim Medvedev, a Gorbachev ally, for failing to lay down a clear marker for the party to follow in the midst of change.

"It is painful for me to see a wave of slander heaped on the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union)," a right-wing delegate, Artuk Azilov, said. But Democratic Platform's delegation chief Vladimir

mir Lysenko said his radical group would "fight to the end" to defend the reformist cause.

The president of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, a radical critic of Mr Gorbachev's reform plan, said: "Prospects are grim. But things may change. The congress is continuing."

The polarisation of views has raised the prospect of a split in the ranks of the once-monolithic party which has ruled the Soviet Union since the 1917 Bolshevik revolution. Analysts say the future of communism in the Soviet Union could ultimately hinge on the outcome of the congress.

The opposition from orthodox marxists has cast doubt over whether Gorbachev will be able to win a reformist majority elected to the party's policy-setting Central Committee. Mr Gorbachev wants a major overhaul of party ranks and institutions to as part of his ambitious perestroika plans for restructuring Soviet economic and social life. In particular, he wants a more sympathetic central committee to be elected next week at the end of the 10-day congress.

Right-wing delegates repeated on Wednesday that they would back Mr Gorbachev when he seeks re-election. Reformists, however, say that with an uncooperative central committee he might find his hands tied.

Mr Gorbachev has said he expects major changes in the leadership, and told the congress on Tuesday that four senior figures had already announced their intention of resigning, including a junior politburo member, Aleksandr Biryukov, who is one of his backers.



Smiling through: an embattled Mikhail Gorbachev finds a moment of light relief from the attacks of his critics during the Communist party congress in Moscow

Yeltsin's absence signals new balance of power

FROM MARY DEJENSEY IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin, looking tired and a little jaded, was back in his place in the stalls of the Kremlin Palace for the third day of the Soviet Communist party congress yesterday.

On Tuesday, he had absented himself to chair a parliamentary session of the Russian Federation, the body which he is gradually transforming into his creature. Mr Yeltsin's absence from the party congress says much about the current balance of political forces in the country.

This is perhaps the first party congress where a prominent member of the party, a member of the central committee no less, could simply opt out for a day on the grounds that he had more important things to do. Party

congresses used to be the engagement in every member's calendar. For a member of the Central Committee, absence symbolised political extinction.

Mr Yeltsin can well afford to take political liberties. He has already announced that he may suspend his party membership after the congress so as to be an impartial chairman of the Russian parliament "in the transition to a multi-party system". The same pretext would cover a decision to leave the party altogether if he could not influence the outcome of the congress.

Mr Yeltsin will also be aware of his value to President Gorbachev. If Gorbachev is at least considering a deal with Mr Yeltsin which would move the party, kicking at the party congress meant that the reformists' bare majority was increased sufficiently for them not only to prevent membership of key commissions falling into "enemy" hands, but also to push through appointments.

They included Sergei Krasavchenko, an economist and former colleague of Gorbachev, the new mayor of Moscow, who will chair the committee on economic reform. A potentially more important appointment, however, was that of Nikolai Travkin, a former Communist party radical who left the party in April to form the new Democratic Russian party. Mr Travkin heads the commission on local self-rule, which will lay the foundations for Mr Yeltsin's policies on economic and political decentralisation.

The very fact that Mr Yeltsin was able to host the Russian Federation parliament meeting even while the five-yearly party congress is in progress, suggests either that the party leadership was too weak or preoccupied to prevent it or that its words about

the separation of functions in the administration have some substance. Both explanations have implications for the future balance of forces: parliamentarians in particular, are set to increase their influence if not yet their power.

Contrasting the proceedings of the Russian parliament with the party congress, the former had a sense of purpose in tackling immediate problems which has been lacking at the party congress where abstract policies and power are uppermost.

Mr Yeltsin, a canny politician that he is, exploited the overlapping sessions to score points over his conservative opponents. The absence of more loyal — and generally more conservative — deputies at the party congress meant that the reformists' bare majority was increased sufficiently for them not only to prevent membership of key commissions falling into "enemy" hands, but also to push through appointments.

They included Sergei Krasavchenko, an economist and former colleague of Gorbachev, the new mayor of Moscow, who will chair the committee on economic reform. A potentially more important appointment, however, was that of Nikolai Travkin, a former Communist party radical who left the party in April to form the new Democratic Russian party. Mr Travkin heads the commission on local self-rule, which will lay the foundations for Mr Yeltsin's policies on economic and political decentralisation.

The very fact that Mr Yeltsin was able to host the Russian Federation parliament meeting even while the five-yearly party congress is in progress, suggests either that the party leadership was too weak or preoccupied to prevent it or that its words about

Albania trapped between reform and open revolt

By LIBBY JUKES AND HAZRIR TEIMOURIAN

THE mass occupation of foreign diplomatic compounds in Tirana by people seeking asylum must evoke uncomfortable memories for President Ramiz Alia of scenes at the West German embassies in Prague and Budapest last autumn, which precipitated the collapse of Eastern Europe's other communist regimes.

In January this year, Zeri i Popullit, the official newspaper of the ruling Albanian Workers' Party, reacted to Western media speculation that the Albanian leadership would be the next domino to fall by confidently reiterating the country's traditional, isolationist stance.

"Those who think that the time has come to intervene in the Albanian situation after the changes in Eastern Europe should know that Tirana will continue along the path of socialism, and that no force can prevent that," the paper said.

But the warning was premature. That same month, unrest began to erupt, particularly in the towns near the border with Yugoslavia. President Alia's government blamed it on the exiled Albanian majority in the neighbouring Serbian province of Kosovo. The demonstrations proved sufficiently unnerving for the government to introduce a limited programme of perestroika, or renewal.

Shortly before the demonstrations, the government had allowed the publication of *Thika* (The Knives), a book denouncing the hated, all-seeing state security service, the Sigurimi. Although its appearance was swiftly followed with that of the 68th volume of the speeches of the late President Hoxha, it was a sign that President Alia, who succeeded him in 1985, was prepared for limited political relaxation.

President Alia's January adjustments included rights of appeal against court verdicts, elections for some official posts and a choice of party candidates at elections. A ban on foreign investment was lifted, wage incentives were introduced and some private property was allowed. The events in Eastern Europe, the president declared, were "a tragedy" caused by the "ruling clique" losing touch with the people. After more demonstrations in May, the president introduced further reforms granting Albanians, including Muslims, religious freedoms and allowing them to apply for passports. Flight from Albania, once a capital offence, became "illegal frontier trespassing", liable to three months' imprisonment.

President Alia's dilemma is a classic one: how much to relax his grip over the nation without emboldening it to rise in open revolt. Whereas his predecessor had maintained a rigorous Marxist-Leninist line, President Alia has realised the need for greater "economic logic", which he answered with limited market socialism. During a visit to Albania in May by the secretary general of the United Nations, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, Mr Alia declared his government's "great flexibility" on all questions of human rights. Albania was last month accepted as an observer at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe talks in Copenhagen.

To make it to the top Mr Alia had to remain totally in the shadow of Enver Hoxha, to the extent that much of his past life still remains unknown. He was born in the northern town of Shkoder in 1925 to Muslim parents fleeing from Kosovo. He joined the Communist party in 1943, at the age of 18. He is thought to have fought under Mr Hoxha, then leader of the Communist partisans fighting the invading Italians.

Mr Alia is now haunted by the ghost of Enver Hoxha, whose image still stares from almost every public building, including bars and shops. His widow, Nexhmije Hoxha, leads the AWP's conservative faction opposed to the president.

Determined to protect his people from the capitalist evils of unemployment, crime and drugs, President Hoxha once declared that "the walls of our fortress are an unbreakable granite rock". But Greek and Italian television are now beamed straight over the top, and young Albanians are increasingly impressed by what they see of the outside world.

Living on a staple diet of pasta and dried beans and earning an average of \$86 per month, they have little to distract them from it. Sixty per cent of the Albanian population is employed in agriculture, but the country is now experiencing its third successive year of drought. With a recent two-thirds drop in oil production, its economy is in poor shape.

Hungary balks at bill from Moscow

FROM ERNEST BECK IN BUDAPEST

HUNGARIANS were jubilant last March when the 50,000 Soviet soldiers who have occupied their country for decades began their long-awaited departure. But, as the troops pull out, the locals are starting to count the real cost of the Russian withdrawal.

Hikers in the Hungarian national park recently stumbled on a cache of Soviet landmines, machinegun ammunition and tear gas canisters, raising fears that the nation might be littered with the dangerous remnants of Soviet army training exercises.

More worrying is an increasingly bitter dispute between the two countries over who should pay for the buildings, barracks, civilian flats and airport facilities left behind by the cash-strapped Russians, who are asking for \$600 million (£335 million) in compensation. Hungary refuses to pay the bill, claiming that most of the estimated 2,000 "military objects and sites" were built by Hungarians and, due to neglect, are now in a dilapidated and unusable condition.

Hungarian defence ministry calculations put the balance at zero, when one includes the cost of cleaning up pockmarked practice fields, not to mention environmental damage from more than 500,000 tons of military equipment and fuel dumps.

Large areas of Hungarian territory used for tank exercises and weapons practice are now a ruined wasteland and many waterways are polluted, according to the ministry.

General Matvei Burlakov, commander of the Soviet forces in Hungary, told the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* this week that Moscow might stop the pull-out if the Hungarians did not pay up, adding that the remaining troops could be ordered to guard flats vacated by the families of withdrawing soldiers.

Although talks are continuing on the financial arrangements, Lajos Fur, the Hungarian defence minister, said that the threat raised serious doubts about Soviet intentions in Hungary and other countries to complete its withdrawal obligations. "General Burlakov thinks that things can only be accomplished by posing a military threat, but we cannot accept this method," he said.

Hungarians have been treated to newspaper exposés of how the soldiers live, complete with photographs of filthy lavatories and flats with peeling paint.

Slovenia hangs out the flags for 'sovereignty'

FROM RICHARD BASSETT IN LJUBLJANA

SLOVENIA, along with every other Yugoslav republic, yesterday celebrated an official holiday commemorating partisan struggles in the second world war.

For more than 40 years, Slovenes have diligently put on Yugoslav as well as Slovenian flags on this day. Any household which failed to fly the communist banner faced criminal prosecution.

But the only flags to be seen yesterday were those of Slovenia. Few Slovenes imagine that this holiday will be celebrated next year, and now no one worries any more about

prosecution. After the Slovene parliament declared full sovereignty earlier this week, they were yesterday celebrating national victory.

Officially, the Slovene parliament's declaration is only a "first step". Milan Kučan, the former Communist party leader who is now president of Slovenia, said: "It is the minimum move we can make." But France Bucan, the Speaker of the Slovene parliament, who announced the declaration after a unanimous vote by the assembly's 240 deputies, said: "Yugoslavia as it is today cannot survive."

Now they admit that Serbia cannot possibly intervene in two republics as well as keep the lid on the ever-problematic Kosovo.

The Serbs' anger, even the ominous threats of the federal Yugoslav army, are not taken seriously any more Under the Slovene parliamentary declaration a new constitution giving Slovenia its own military and security forces will be confirmed within a year. In the meantime, 30 per cent of the republic's present military budget will be cut. The thorny issue of subsidising Belgrade on the civilian front will also be thrashed out while police, intelligence and counter-intelligence agencies will be established over the next few weeks to ensure an orderly withdrawal from the present federal system.

The existing arrangements were bequeathed to the Slovenes by the late Marshal Tito. But with close historical ties with Central Europe rather than the Balkans, the Slovenes hope to reduce their ties with Belgrade to a minimum.

To Belgrade's intense displeasure, the Slovenes have also begun printing their own money. The dinar, the official Yugoslav currency, is spurned in favour of a green note, the "lipa", bearing the romantic features of the great 19th century Slovene poet France Preseren.

Though this week's declaration does not refer to secession from the Yugoslav federation, most Slovenes believe secession is now inevitable.

France jails Basque militants

Paris — The suspected second-in-command of the Basque separatist group Eta was jailed for 10 years in Paris yesterday (James Bone writes).

Santiago Arrospe-Sarasola, aged 42, known as "Saniti-Potroz", was convicted of terrorist conspiracy together with several other Basque militants, who were jailed for up to six years.

The jail term may delay Arrospe-Sarasola's extradition to Spain, where he is wanted in connection with the 1987 bombing of a shopping centre in Barcelona which left 20 dead and 42 injured.

Coming home

Moscow — Two Soviet cosmonauts earlier feared stranded in space will shortly be returning to Earth from the orbiting Mir space station after repairing damage to a Soyuz transport ship, Radio Moscow reported. (AFP)

Pensioner freed

Dade City, Florida — A man aged 90 who often argued with others at a retirement home where he lived has been acquitted of killing three fellow residents with his cane. (AP)

Jail riot deaths

Chihuahua, Mexico — Four inmates were killed and 15 seriously injured in jail riot here when 60 convicts escaped. (AP)

Caving tragedy

Hobart — Two teenage girls and a teacher drowned when a rain-swollen underground river swept them away during a cave expedition in Tasmania. (AP)

Suspect gives in

Hong Kong — A suspected illegal immigrant from China climbed from scaffolding back into an unfinished 35-storey building, ending a 59-hour waiting game by 500 policemen. (Reuters)

Lucky gamble

Manila — Robbers freed a policeman who survived after they ordered him to play Russian roulette during a bus hijacking. (AP)

Dinghy ordeal

Sydney — A man aged 30 survived 38 days adrift in a small dinghy in the Arafura Sea between Indonesia and Australia by living off fish he caught. (AFP)

New quake toll

Tehran — President Rafsanjani revised the death toll in the June earthquake in Iran to between 35,000 and 36,000 people. (AFP)



Boris Gidaspov, the Leningrad hard-liner, held his fire at the Communist party congress yesterday

MOSCOW NOTEBOOK by Nicholas Beeston

They also serve who cannot understand a word

Observers at this week's Soviet Communist party congress here have been forced to conclude that the contributions of some of the delegates are, you might say, less equal than those of others.

True, it is a long-standing tradition for delegates to slip away on shopping trips in the city, even if as a result they miss key debates about their future. But of greater concern are the blank stares of those of the 5,000 or so delegates who seem as unmoved by headline Marxist-Leninist rhetoric as they are by reformist pro-democracy speeches. Pessimists suggest that the impassive faces of these representatives from the provinces bear all the hallmarks of the late Leonid Brezhnev and that the country is headed back to the period of stagnation over which he presided.

The answer came in the nightly television news, when a reporter asked an Uzbek delegate for his opinion of the day's proceedings. He smiled, scratched his head nervously beneath his *tyubetika*, the traditional embroidered skull cap of Central Asia, and revealed that he did not understand the questioner or, for that matter, very much Russian. This is a serious

handicap, since congress proceedings are supposed to be conducted entirely in Russian.

Officials pointed out that 63 nationalities of the Soviet Union were represented but would not speculate on how many understood the proceedings.

As though Mr Gorbachev did not have enough problems to deal with, he is being pursued by a good-looking American from Colorado who has recently become a familiar face in the Kremlin.

The American is Gary Hart who, since his retirement from the 1987 presidential nomination campaign over allegations of womanising, has been writing a book called *The Second Russian Revolution*. He visits Moscow every month, where he claims to have been given access to every top official in the government and the party except Mr Gorbachev.

Mr Hart's modest comeback pales by comparison in historical terms with the nostalgic sight this week on the streets of Moscow of the anarchists, who appeared standing patiently in the rain under a black flag during a demonstration. True, there were only three of

them, but the Conference of Anarchist-Syndicalists claims a membership of 500, with hundreds of other supporters, which is not bad for an organisation that was wiped out by the Bolsheviks 70 years ago.

The new pacifist version of the old revolutionary claims to have given up its early penchant for violence and assassination but not its fundamental desire to remove central government and bureaucracy. The anarchists appear to be thriving in their new offices, fully equipped with computers and bright young volunteers.

One political organisation which could face a recruitment drive tougher even than the anarchists is the Stalin Protection Society, which said recently that "by defaming Stalin and praising their class, the bourgeois reactionary forces have succeeded in compromising the communist movement throughout the world."

If you are unlucky enough to be a frequent passenger on the domestic services of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, you could these days find yourself among a growing number of hijack victims. There were 20 hijacking attempts in the Soviet Union between 1978 and

1988, but five aircraft have been hijacked to Finland, Sweden and Turkey in the past three weeks. A sixth hijack attempt was thwarted in southern Russia.

Most of the hijackers are young men aged between 17 and 20 with no criminal record who have used replica weapons to seize planes and seek asylum in the West. One young man said he hijacked a plane last weekend because he wanted to avoid military service. Another used a fake hand-grenade to hijack an aircraft after a row with his parents.

The authorities are particularly concerned about newspaper reports which appear to suggest that the rest of Soviet youth approves of the hijackers and that many youngsters are impressed by their daring and could be tempted to try it for themselves.

People in southern Russia appear to have developed a fascination for UFOs rivaling even that of the supermarket tabloid press in America.

After an initial sighting last year of a UFO near the city of Voronezh, which was at first dismissed as the side-effects of the city's notoriously considerable

consumption of vodka, hardly a week goes by without another claim being reported.

The UFO crews, who normally speak perfect Russian in their conversations with earthlings, appear recently to have become more aggressive, according to witnesses in the region. Two new cases this week in the northern Caucasus town of Nachik enabled the newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* to conclude that women are more than twice as likely to be the victims of an abduction attempt by UFO aliens than men.

Queues outside McDonalds in Moscow have not shortened since the American fast-food chain opened its first outlet here earlier this year, but consumer analysts are still unclear whether Muscovites truly love Big Mac hamburgers or simply cannot resist the temptation of joining a likely looking queue.

In one recent reported example a woman joined the line in Gorky Street and patiently waited for her turn to reach the counter without apparently knowing what it was she was queuing for. When she was finally asked what she wanted, she ordered beads.

Schooling the all-rounder

James Cornford

Equity and efficiency are often seen to be in contradiction. Competition, it is said, is the spur to efficiency — equity gets in the way. For the left, the challenge has been to show that social justice does not lead to economic failure.

In one area at least, equity and efficiency are now complementary. A modern economy needs an open and egalitarian public education system. The implications for Britain, and especially for England — where education is marked by early selection and low participation — are far-reaching.

In industry today, innovation is at a premium. The shift from sequential to integrated production means that employees must combine practical skills with more theoretical knowledge. Workers and managers need to adapt to new demands, but also to make a creative contribution to product and process development. The traditional answer to skill shortages — provision of job-specific training at work — is not enough. Without a broadly-based general education, people are ill-equipped for technological change.

The English education system provides narrow academic education for the few — only 14 per cent of 18-year-olds get two or more A levels — and various low-level vocational qualifications for the rest, many of whom go straight into jobs which offer no training. The result is that only 35 per cent of 16 to 18-year-olds remain in full-time education and training.

Policies under discussion aim to improve the quality of the separate vocational and academic routes. Policy-makers must realise that the division between an "educated" elite and a "trained" majority is itself the problem.

The division between intellectual and practical study runs deep and A levels epitomise the problem. Despite valuable innovations, GCSE exams are designed to exclude 75 per cent of 15-year-olds from the education system. English education is based on failure, weeding out pupils deemed unfit for the next educational stage. In contrast, the emerging countries of the Pacific Rim have set up systems designed for the majority of students up to 18. They achieve participation rates of over 75 per cent.

It is now an economic necessity for general education to be spread across the population. France is aiming for 80 per cent of 18-year-olds to reach Baccalauréat standard by the year 2000. Even in West Germany, which has a well-entrenched division between academic education and vocational training, 15 per cent of apprentices study the Abitur up to age 18 before they start stream-lined training.

The best way to achieve full-time education and training for 16 to 18-year-olds is through a uni-

fied system of post-16 learning. This means abolishing A levels and the various vocational awards, and replacing them with a single qualification at 18-plus. A modular curriculum would allow students to pursue different levels of intellectual and practical study according to their aptitudes and interests. A common core of subjects (such as careers guidance) would build coherence as well as choice into the system.

Rather than being confined to three A levels, high achievers would pursue core modules in four or five areas, specialist study in one or two and practical learning through a work placement. Above all, a unified system would not offer these opportunities at the majority's expense.

Under the existing system, choices for students with, say, four GCSEs, are limited. An A level perhaps, or a two-year vocational award are open to them. A unified system would allow them to take core modules in economics, maths, and French, and to pursue their special interest, for example in journalism through courses in media studies. Where they excelled, they would study with the best students, where they had difficulty, they would study at a different level.

It is at the intermediate level of achievement that our failure is greatest. The middle third of students, who are currently on the margins of staying on or leaving, must be offered more than attractive courses. This is partly a cultural question: many parents' experience of education does not incline them to value it for their children. It is also a matter of straight incentives.

At present, an unrestrained youth labour market offers early school-leavers perverse incentives of high youth wages and maxi-

mum age limits for entry to jobs. Employers must be encouraged to defer recruitment from 16 to 18. Those going to work at 16 or 17 should have access to further education. A legal requirement that all youth employees be released for study within one day a week would help achieve this. A ban on maximum age limits for entry to jobs would ensure that those who do stay on do not miss out on career opportunities.

What happens in the labour market is as much a cause as a consequence of what goes on in education. Employers assure me that we should leave job-specific training to them. Their task is impossible unless we organise our educational arrangements to promote higher achievement for all. The integration of intellectual and practical study within a single system is now a precondition both for economic and for social progress.

The author is director of the Institute for Public Policy Research.

...and moreover

CLEMENT FREUD

When anthropologists assess this sport-dominated week, I doubt that the Highgate Claiming Race for three and four-year-olds, geldings and mares, over a distance of 1 mile 4 furlongs and 100 yards (better known as the 8.10 at Wolverhampton's evening meeting last Monday) will figure prominently on anyone's list. Cognate races are likely to plump for the obvious events: the World Cup, Wimbledon, the Tour de France. Hence, I would argue with their sense of priority.

It is true that in an overall analysis of the Sport of Kings, occurrences at Wolverhampton contribute no more than a minor scratch upon the broad canvas of racing. Compared to Ascot and York, Goodwood, Ayr and Newbury, Wolverhampton is small beer — a Bognor Regis among seaside resorts. "Buzzer Bognor" said George V: men of discretion have similarly dispersed the West Midlands circuit.

Adlai Stevenson said of Eisenhower that "he suffered from delusions of adequacy". Wolverhampton racecourse does that. It has as the requisite ingredients for a track: a stand and a bar, an oval circuit, starting stalls and a winning post — yet it does not seem to get them together. Each meeting takes the racecourse authority by surprise. Long queues form, the car park overflows, there are no race-cards for owners, a lamentable absence of brave bookmakers to attract betters, and the jellied-egg stall (£3 for a small bowl) has no chillies in the vinegar bottle and no obvious place into which to spit the bones.

There are other basic faults: they seem to have forgotten to provide the bar with staff, the finishing line is situated in a God-forsaken corner of the track and the stand is built on the east side of the complex, the designers having forgotten that in the Midlands the sun sets in the west. Take your position where you will, face the action and all you see is the blinding light — in front of which there is movement which could well be horses running from somewhere to somewhere else; you can hear a commentary, though unless equipped with shades

and a visor there is little opportunity to check its veracity. Wearagrandmother, having come a disappointing third in a claiming race at Newmarket the previous Friday, was running again. It is, said the trainer, a rubbishy sort of race and the filly is in fair nick, receiving weight from all the other horses by virtue of the fact that she is in to be "claimed" for the minimum £6,500. Mr N. Carlisle, who is able to make the allotted weight of 7st 7lb, has been engaged to ride. "Good man, Carlisle is," said my trainer. I nodded; a small man without a doubt.

The public address crackled into life. "In Race 4," it said, "hoose 11 Wearagrandmother carries 11b overweight."

The fat slob, I said to the trainer, did you know? The trainer had not known. Mr N. Carlisle hove into sight and we examined him for signs of overindulgence. There were few; he apologised for the extra 16 ounces, explained that he had spent the morning running to get the weight off — in vain. We forgave him, though at that distance an extra pound equals £500 to the claiming price.

The filly looked good and keen, some way from "fairly modest" as she was described in *Timeform*. The trainer gave the jockey a leg up into the six-ounce saddle, we wished Mr Carlisle well and made for the bookmakers who showed Wearagrandmother at 2-1 joint favourite. I would have supported her with serious money had not a travelling head lad who has failed to tip a winner since October 1965 come up to me and said "yours is a good thing, I backed her to win only what I lost last week."

The rest is history. We made a brief appearance in the winner's enclosure, the horse and I, and accepted a leaded crystal bowl from the sponsors. It would have been churlish to have insisted on an unleaded one.

It being 8.20, with my train due to leave at 8.33, I bade farewell to the sun-kissed racecourse and got into my waiting taxi. People called out "Goodbye" and "Well done"; an agreeable place, Wolverhampton; might go and settle near there.

Louis Blom-Cooper replies to Calcutt's call for abolition of the Press Council

Editors, beware the nascent lion

Hilaire Belloc's advice in his poem about the boy eaten by a lion — "always keep a hold of nurse, for fear of finding something worse" — might well apply to the Press Council, established in the year of Belloc's death. Over the past four decades, three royal commissions on the press and now the second of two departmental committees on privacy have endorsed the proposition that the public and the newspaper industry will be incomparably better served by a self-regulatory body than by any watchdog over press freedom and responsibility that has the faintest taint of government about it.

The Press Council has performed tolerably well in promoting press freedom and journalistic responsibility, but those who mourn its passing need not be too despondent. Almost all the Calcutt committee suggestions for the proposed Press Complaints Commission can be traced to the efforts of all members of the council to persuade its denigrators that reform from within was both desirable and feasible.

Last year the Press Council undertook its own, albeit somewhat belated review for reforming

itself. Out of that review grew a code of practice intentionally limited in scope but which could be revised and extended. If the code was vague (as Calcutt claims), the suggested Calcutt code is not exactly a piece of precise draftsmanship. The council's declaration of principles on privacy, first enunciated in 1976, will take on a particular importance for the new body in the light of Calcutt's disinclination to recommend a legally enforceable remedy.

There are some knotty problems to be resolved in the light of the Calcutt recommendations. None is more troublesome than the present practice that a complainant must waive his right to go to law before the Press Council will adjudicate on the complaint. The council's review committee was deeply divided on replacing the waiver with something that seems to deny a person's unimpeded access to the courts, and urged the industry to find an acceptable alternative. The newspapers' lawyers resolutely refused to do anything. Now that the Calcutt committee has joined the chorus of those who have constantly found the waiver system legally flawed and socially objectionable, the industry will have to learn to live without the waiver. In practice, there will be little change in the libel scene, even if the supposed protection of the waiver is dropped.

Calcutt is at least highly vulnerable at one point in its package of reforms. The creation of three new criminal offences relating to physical intrusion by journalists on to private property is fraught with practical difficulties and replete with potential injustice. If the government does not accept the Calcutt recommendation of extending criminal justice to journalistic trespassing, the question inevitably arises about what to put in their place. Here, Calcutt itself provides the pointer. Prompted by the Court of Appeal earlier this year, it came near to recommending a new civil wrong for invasion of privacy, but instead decided on an injection of a dose of criminal justice only into the most sensitive part of investigative journalism. In the absence of any new offence of criminal trespass, there should be a general remedy for an invasion of privacy, preferably with legal aid available. This would mean that the citizen could pursue those few news-

papers which are the main culprits and, where appropriate, exact heavy damages. Given a legal remedy in the courts, there would be a less compelling need for any complaints body.

In these circumstances, the newspaper industry and the government might feel that the Press Council should remain, perhaps in the revised form proposed by the council itself, rather than erect an expensive new edifice along the lines suggested by Calcutt. But unless and until that happens, the newspaper industry must bow to the irresistible, namely the Press Complaints Commission.

The Press Council tried hard to produce a package of reform proposals that could pass muster with Calcutt. It was thwarted by the very industry whose interest in self-regulation the council sought to serve. In the end Calcutt remained unpersuaded by those efforts. If the industry had fully heeded the warning given last year by Tim Renton, then Home Office minister, that parliamentarians had to be powerfully dissuaded from drastic and dangerous reforms impinging on freedom of expression, the Press Council could, I think, have moved forward to establishing a sound complaints system.

The newspaper industry must also now abandon its paragon of the past. For the last few years the Press Council has been serenely underfunded. If (as Calcutt found) it has been ineffective, that has been partly the result of an inability financially to function to its maximum potential. It is almost as if the newspaper industry wanted its fig-leaf provided the cost was no more than was necessary to cover the bare essentials of non-interference by government.

But holding on to nurse's hand must not remain as tenuous as it has been in the recent past. Commitment to the Press Complaints Commission — if commitment there is to be — must be whole-hearted. Otherwise any straying from recognition and acceptance of adjudications by the new body will result in the public's precious freedom of expression being tragically diminished. Freedom of the press will then be gobbled up by the lion of Westminster.

The author, chairman of the Press Council, writes here in a personal capacity.

How the profligate bankers can be called to account

After the recent company failures, Bernard Levin offers a remedy that would protect the helpless investor

If there is a banker, reasonably well disposed to me, reading this, I have a request to make. Would he be so kind as to lend me three or four hundred million pounds, as soon as possible and at latest by the weekend? (On further reflection, I think I would like the full half-billion: no point in spoiling the ship for a ha'porth of tar, eh, ha-ha-ha?) I don't have any of what I think experts call collateral, but I am certainly willing to sign a paper committing myself to repay a reasonable proportion of the sum in due course — with the obvious proviso that if I lose the lot I shall have nothing to pay, so the loan will have to be (again, I am not entirely sure about the nomenclature) "written off".

As for the purpose of the loan, I was thinking of putting some of it into a most promising enterprise I have recently heard of: the technicalities, of course, I do not understand, but the point of it is to extract moonbeams from cucumbers. The rest I intend to put into the care of a gentleman I bumped into the other day, a Mr Cornfield. (His forename, too, is Bernard, a delightful coincidence, and we got on splendidly: within the hour he was insisting that I should call him "Bernie" — he assured me all his friends do!)

Ah, yes, you will say, Levin's in a merry mood again. So he is; but what exactly is the difference between my nonsense and the daily reality as it unfolds in the financial pages? Let us start at the top, with the serious financial difficulties in which Mr Donald Trump has found himself. It is not necessary to go into the details of his plight, or how he got into it; in any case, I would not understand the intricacies, and you would not understand my exposition. Just suck this very ripe plum, and mind you get a hankie first, or the juice will run down your chin:

Bankers who are owed millions of dollars by Mr Trump... agreed yesterday to keep him out

of the bankruptcy courts... all but one bank signed an agreement... to provide a \$20 million bridging loan enabling Mr Trump to pay interest on bonds... Over the next 30 days the banks will complete the paperwork for the balance of a \$65 million rescue package... the deal will go ahead with... the... 70 banks that had agreed to defer... payments on \$850 million of Mr Trump's \$2 billion bank debts...

The most urgent and important words in that report — at any rate the most urgent and important to you and me — are "all but one bank signed", and it therefore behoves me to name, with a 95 per cent surety, this noble maverick, this magnificent loner, this shining example. It is the West German Dresdner Bank, and my advice to all those of you who have money to invest is to put every penny you have into its care, confident that it will be carefully looked after, and will grow at a reasonable rate. As for the 70 other banks which rushed to sign the loan agreement, go and stand outside any of them, and when you see a lorry unloading thousands of cucumbers, run.

Do not believe that such goings-on are limited to the United States; as far as my reading about such matters goes, British banking is actually worse. I had a lot of fun with Ferranti not long ago (which is a great deal more than the shareholders did), but such horrors can be found wherever you look. I see, for instance, that the Securities and Investment Board is urgently seeking the key to the stable door, following the B&C crash. All sorts of remedies are being touted: insinuations may even have to be more careful about where they put their clients' money or may have to limit their deposits to 10 per cent in any one bank — good gracious! Indeed, a far more revolutionary principle is being discussed: firms may be obliged to tell their clients just what they have done with their



money — imagine! Why, Barclays have already had to set aside £100 million against their loans to B&C — think of it!

And what about Coloroll, which went down the sluice a few weeks ago £300 million short of a pop-up solvency? Yet here is what a representative of the receivers said, when asked whether the crash might bankrupt some of Coloroll's suppliers: "It depends on how deep the creditors are in and how well they have read the tea leaves over the past months. They were given enough warning."

Oh, they were, were they? Yes, they were: hear also a representa-

tative of Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, on the disaster: "Anyone who goes out and buys textile assets at the current time has got to be half-baked if they pay a high price, because there's no sign of an upturn."

My opening request is beginning to look perfectly possible: if I could only discover who Coloroll's bankers were, I bet I could persuade them to stake me. After all, the receiver and the man at Kleinwort's had no interest to declare, and they apparently had no doubt that Coloroll had been doomed long before the shutters came down. So why didn't Colo-

roll? Why, indeed, didn't Mr John Ashcroft, the boss ("His severance payment is still being negotiated")? Ah, cry those (Arthur Scargill is one) who would solve problems of this nature by nationalising the whole of business: the bankers and capitalists can do nothing but oppress the working-classes; put the assets into the hands of the sons of toil, and prosperity will come galloping over the horizon. Will it not? Alas, not necessarily. Listen to this enchanting sentence: "The accounts of... the Transport and General Workers' Union reveal an £8.7 million deficit for 1989, but the general secretary, Ron Todd, yesterday denied that the union was facing a financial crisis." Very well; who were the TGWU's bankers, and what has become of the discreet cough behind the hand?

Never mind discreet coughs; what has become of the principle of not throwing good money after bad? I buy no shares, neither do I sell them, but if I did, and one of my investments was doing badly, I would probably get rid of it. I say "probably" because close inspection of the shares might well suggest, on good grounds, that they had a real chance of rising again. But if I learned that the company whose shares I held was borrowing substantial sums of money from banks in order to pay the interest on its bank loans, I would get the hell out of the shares at whatever price they would fetch, and if I then discovered that the company was borrowing more money to enable it to pay the interest on the interest, I would get the hell out of the bank in question as well.

I do not know the solution; I am by no means sure that I know the problem. Amateurism? Leave it to good old Fred? Lack of training? Insufficient penalties for failure? Insufficient rewards for success?

Past, but perhaps I can offer a practical suggestion. When the crash comes, the experts always announce that the "secured creditors" (which almost invariably means the banks and big institutions) will get their money, though the small shareholders, unsecured creditors and the staff will get nothing. What about legislation which inverts that pyramid?

No royal arm to lean on

As plaudits for the National Health Service treatment of the Prince of Wales continue to roll in, it now emerges that the Gloucestershire hospital which treated him is threatened with partial closure.

A report from the Faculty of Anaesthetists recommends that emergency anaesthetics at Cirencester hospital should cease, and that patients be transferred to the local district general hospital at Cheltenham. For Prince Charles, who was in considerable pain during the short trip from the Cirencester Park polo field to the local hospital, this would have meant a gruelling 17-mile drive on country roads.

Medical staff worried by the possibility of a reduced service are delighted that the Prince's short stay has highlighted the quality of the hospital's facilities. But despite his declared appreciation of the treatment he received, the Prince will not publicly champion their cause, since to do so would impinge on a clearly political matter. A spokesman for the hospital is not a matter for the Prince. He was there simply as a patient.

Meanwhile, a local working party, chaired by Dr David Hunt, has drafted a report on the implications of the Faculty of Anaesthetists' recommendations and presented it to the Cheltenham and District Health Authority. No decision has yet been taken. "The tone of the report is that the role of Cirencester is seen as vital and continuing," says Dr Hunt. It recommends that emer-

gency surgery should continue there, but only between approximately 9am and 5pm.

So if you break an arm or a leg in the Cirencester area, make sure you do so in office hours.

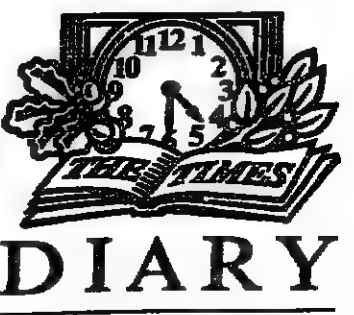
Peers in full cry

Foxhunting peers, of whom there are a goodly pack on the government benches, have been peering anxiously at the latest Whitehall consultation document, *The Control of Dogs*. It proposes a new offence, of allowing a dog to be "dangerously out of control". Although the proposal is aimed at curbing Rottweilers and pit bull terriers, it would apply anywhere, including the rural



splendour of a hunt. Police would be empowered to destroy an offending dog, and magistrates courts could order an over-enthusiastic beagle to be muzzled or kept on a lead.

Hunters, needless to say, are appalled by the prospect. Lord Mancroft, former Master of the Wiltshire and Gloucestershire hunt, says: "Hunt saboteurs could bring legal actions by complaining to the police about foxhounds being out of control. The govern-



ment has not thought this through properly." Nor, he says, does the plan take into account more mundane matters. "What do you do when the village butch is on heat and every dog in the county wants to get at her? That is a case of dogs out of control, but you can't legislate to stop it. This proposal doesn't quite fit the bill."

The foxhunters will voice their concern when Chris Patten's environment protection bill comes before the Lords today. Such is their displeasure, they are expected to vote for a compulsory dog registration scheme, against the government's wishes.

Reeky clean

The image of the romantic novelist Daphne du Maurier as a humourless recluse set to be transformed, 15 months after her death, Margaret Forster, who is working on her biography, has unearthed a cache of personal letters which show that the author enjoyed life and had a fine sense of humour. "She was tremendously witty," says Forster, author of a dozen novels and biographies of Thackeray and Elizabeth Barrett. "Reading some of her letters I have laughed out loud."

One letter describes an anxious afternoon when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh came to tea at her Cornwall home (her husband, "Boy" Browning, was the Duke's treasurer). "Before they arrived, Daphne had had the fireplace cleaned," she says. "Throughout the delicious tea she was terrified the Queen could smell the disinfectant."

Rival draws

Mick Jagger, Frank Sinatra and the audiences at their London concert last night were not alone in missing the riveting World Cup semi-final on television. Despite the soccer mania, it was impossible to get a seat for *Miss Saigon*, *Phantom of the Opera* or *Buddy*. "The hit shows are unaffected because people had to book their tickets months in advance," says Roger Filer, managing director of Stoll Moss, owner of 12 London theatres. "And at this time of the year many theatre-goers are foreign tourists who are not interested in England's appearance in the World Cup — perhaps not interested in football at all."

But the West End was still affected by the drama in Turin. When the shows ended, there was hardly a taxi to be had. Hundreds of cabbies switched off their yellow lights and went absent for the duration of the match.

Porter's next stop?

Lady Porter, the controversial leader of Westminster city council, has set her sights on a seat in the House of Lords. The news will come as some relief to Labour MPs, and even some Tories, who feared that she

wanted a safe seat in the Commons as a reward for the Conservative landslide victory at Westminster in the recent local elections. However, Lady Porter has confided to colleagues on Westminster council that she would like a peerage, preferably before the next local elections in 1994.

Despite the huge Tory majority, her position at the helm of the showpiece London council is not as secure as it may seem. "Some of the new intake are very ambitious, and will cause her problems," one Tory councillor says. "But she is not interested in becoming an MP, since she would not have the power she does now."

Lady Porter's main ambition is to become the head of a powerful quango, probably the National Consumer Council, but is resigned to not achieving it while she leads such a politicized local authority. A life peerage would give her the necessary platform. As another grocer's daughter, she is ideally qualified to head the NCC.

Whip hand

The latest television craze in America features "a sensual blonde ritually humiliating several hundred bawling middle-aged white males in public" — not, surely, the sort of thing Mary Whitehouse would countenance on British television screens. She will be miffed, then, to discover that the series is already being shown here. But before firing off another angry letter to the BBC, the racy production does not apply to some new salacious soap: it is how the American magazine *Cable Guide* describes Mrs Thatcher's twice-weekly performances at the dispatch box.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

MOTHBALLING NATO

Nato's leaders, who gather in London today, face a paradox. They meet to celebrate a victory, but they are unmistakably on the defensive, confronted by a growing belief that there is no longer a serious security threat from what used to be called the Soviet bloc, and that Nato therefore, having served its turn, may no longer be required. Alliances are in danger of dissolution both when they fail and when they succeed. Nato arose from a danger which alarmed everybody: Soviet military adventurism at the start of the Cold War. Such threats to Europe's stability as exist today are political and economic rather than military. To justify its existence, Nato must identify some new contribution.

The performance of Nato's government leaders so far has been unimpressive. Any alliance linking 16 sovereign democracies with 600 million voters is bound to be cumbersome. All institutions resist changes which go beyond the piecemeal and incremental. But this is why the future of Nato presents so crucial, and exciting, a stimulus to Western political co-operation. There is nothing more dispiriting to the European voter than a huddle of defence ministers moving round expensive hotels and reshuffling the alphabet of Nato, WEU, CSCE, EC and IEPP.

Allied leaders must now concentrate on two issues. Certainly an enthusiasm for peace dividends should not throw the baby out with the bathwater. Some matching defence capacity should be retained against the Soviet Union (or Russia). But the strength of this case is weakened by a public perception that nobody at the top of Nato is thinking further ahead. This means thinking the unthinkable: Nato may not exist for ever. The Atlantic alliance has already broken most longevity records for great power treaties. Beyond a certain point, redefining its role must stop and the admission be made that the valiant warhorse may one day be ready to go out to grass.

When West German politicians such as Hans-Dietrich Genscher utter such radicalism, they are taken (correctly) to be seeking ways out of the security dilemma posed by German reunification. For President Bush or Mrs Thatcher to say the same would be more significant, forcing the whole alliance to concentrate on the conditions to be satisfied before Nato could safely consider its own demise.

The most obvious of these conditions is the establishment of stable democracies in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Nato may have

"won the Cold War" but, by its own stated aims, it still has unfinished business. Those aims include overcoming the division of Europe as well as extending democracy. That does not necessarily mean that Nato should become a "more political" organisation, a much canvassed, but vague, idea. Nato is a defensive military alliance, not a political club. Although Nato has no way to guarantee sound regional or national government, its continued presence might discourage the resurgence of European adventurism. But that is merely a reason to delay dissolution until stable democracies are in place.

Debating such a schedule of stability certainly merits greater priority on this summit's agenda than a discussion of Nato's ability to respond to threats outside the Soviet bloc. Such a mission is increasingly beloved of Nato planners, frantic at the impending loss of their reason for existence. This is a classic instance of an army looking for a new war to fight. While there may be a role for the nations of the North Atlantic to play in policing the rest of the world, it is a role best played by some new organisation.

The same goes for the other expansionist dream of the planners: that Nato should embrace the former Warsaw Pact states of Eastern Europe by offering them guarantees against any resurgence of Soviet imperialism. Nato has been a passive defence system, preferring the stability of the status quo to the risks of trying to advance the demise of communism — hence its refusal to assist the Hungarian uprising in 1956. Any attempt to extend Nato would instantly stop the already halting course of Soviet liberalisation, reviving the paranoia of the Russian generals and turning them firmly against Mikhail Gorbachev. The tighter encirclement of the Russian heartlands is something few Soviet strategists could accept. It would also trigger a schism within Nato which could well destroy the alliance.

The challenge for Nato's military strategists is to evolve operational doctrines compatible with a progressive scaling down of the organisation's activity. For the time being, the alliance must be able to act decisively should the Soviet military threat increase. Politicians must explain to their electorates that Nato can be modernised militarily, while being reduced politically. The power it controls is greater than ever seen on earth. The mothballing of that power is surely the most welcome challenge the West has ever faced.

WHAT SCARGILL DID WRONG

There is a corner of South Yorkshire that is for ever Eastern Europe. Arthur Scargill's continued presidency of the National Union of Mineworkers has been rendered untenable by the Lightman report into allegations of misconduct by the union leadership during and since the miners' strike. Even if satisfactory answers to the question why foreign donations never reached the NUM emerge from the new enquiry announced by the union's national executive yesterday, the report has sorely damaged what was left of Mr Scargill's reputation.

The evidence of incompetence, exacerbated by a refusal to seek professional advice, is more than sufficient for a vote of no confidence in him at the union's annual conference on Monday. The fact that such a motion is unlikely to be tabled is a measure of Mr Scargill's continued hold over his union. No ordinary member of the NUM has anything to gain by prolonging an affair that only adds insult to the injured pride and prospects suffered by miners and their families as a consequence of the 1984 strike.

Mr Scargill is prevented from taking the honourable course by his own self-righteousness, which enabled him to justify himself and Peter Heathfield, his NUM general secretary, with the words: "We have done nothing wrong." Mr Lightman, a barrister whose past advocacy on behalf of the NUM does not suggest lack of sympathy for the union, had already remarked of Mr Scargill: "He did not recognise the impropriety of what seemed to me to have been so obviously wrong."

Though Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield have presided over the collapse of the NUM's influence within the labour movement, they and their placemen still control the union from their Sheffield redoubt. The Nottinghamshire-based Union of Democratic Mineworkers

failed to recruit elsewhere and, like the relatively moderate South Wales miners, has dwindled in numbers. That leaves Mr Scargill's strongholds, Yorkshire and Durham, in possession of a still-important industry.

British Coal is powerless to interfere in this enclave. Some miners remain so bitter towards their employers and the press that they have been persuaded to nurse Mr Scargill's grievances as their own. Imprisoned by their siege mentality, many of the mining communities find great difficulty in looking beyond the Scargill era. Perhaps there is a touch of vanity, too: their leader's ability to make the headlines is diminished but not extinguished.

There is a future for coalmining in Britain. The green revolution has thrown all predictions of energy costs into flux, but coal at present looks more robust than nuclear energy — if CO₂ and sulphur emissions can be reduced economically. As long as Mr Scargill leads the miners, their response to the challenge of privatisation, whenever that may come, will be as violently hostile as it was to Sir Ian MacGregor's overdue rationalisation. Yet a privatised industry, with a flexible and enthusiastic workforce, could bring new life to the coalfields. The NUM will have to adapt to meet the new structure of ownership, if it is not to become a spectator at its own funeral.

The Soviet, East German and Hungarian miners, who were made to contribute to Mr Scargill's strike, face a bleak future as a result of economic forces over which they have had no control. They are paying the price for their governments' totalitarian immobility. The British miners are led by a man who supported that totalitarianism. If those miners do not cashier him next week, they will have only themselves to blame if cheap imported coal proves their undoing.

BRUSHING AWAY THE COBWEBS

When Dylan Thomas visited the Royal Institution of South Wales Museum in the 1940s, a dusty place that had barely changed in the course of a century, he declared, "This museum should be in a museum."

Yesterday's Museum of the Year Award showed that British museums have learnt Thomas's lesson. While still being of the times, they are starting to move with the times too. Museums are a British success story. In the past decade, their number has more than doubled. Last year they saw 100 million visitors. After reading and watching television, visiting museums is the most popular British spare-time activity. The judges yesterday found the competition so impressive that they were forced to announce joint winners: the Imperial War Museum and Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry.

Perhaps the best-known of the new wave of British museums, York's Jorvik Viking Centre, takes visitors on an electronically operated train through a reconstruction of Viking York. It now has a million visitors a year, and can accommodate no more. The Museum of the Moving Image, opened on London's South Bank in September 1988 on a site destined to be a car park, has sold nearly a million tickets since then. It operates on private money alone. Actors guide visitors through 5,000 years of film development from ancient Egyptian shadow plays to a television production studio. The actors double as user-friendly security guards. Such innovation is thriving in smaller museums too. In Cornwall, John Southern set

up the Thorburn Museum, a collection of wildlife paintings, in his cowshed. When few visitors appeared, he set about recreating the parkland, animals and smells of the paintings. Now four times as many people grace his display. In the Wigan Pier Heritage Centre, actors play turn-of-the-century town-dwellers. Children are liable to be grabbed by the scruff of the neck by the tram-catcher, sat at desks in a Victorian classroom and told to clean their nails and do their sums. They love it. Museums go these days like to live history as well as look at it.

Scholarship need not suffer. The Jorvik Centre boasts rich archaeological data. Manchester's Science and Industry Museum is no less educationally rigorous for allowing children to touch the exhibits. A whole room — the Experiment Centre — is devoted to allowing visitors to press buttons and watch the workings of magnetism, electricity and optics. Children will learn if they have fun. They will not learn when dragged through a lifeless museum.

No longer need museums consist of rows of Roman coins under glass, threatening uniformed guards and DO NOT TOUCH. Britain's thriving museums are far from turning the country into a theme park. History is a subject valuable in itself. More Britons, and tourists, are being educated about the past, are enjoying it and are carrying the experience through into the future than ever before. This is education every bit as important as takes place in classroom or college. Museums are a national achievement worth a boast.

Fairer play for football on TV

From the Director of Programmes, Thames Television
Sir, Mr Paul Fox's reply (July 3) to your leader on television's coverage of the World Cup (July 2) offers scant justification for inflicting six or seven peak-time clashes of virtually identical pictures of the same football matches over a period of 13 days.

Mr Fox cites the BBC's commitment to the World Cup competition. How, then, does he explain the curious policy during the first round of the finals of consigning much of the BBC's coverage to its minority channel, and even abandoning, in whole or in part, some of the matches assigned to the BBC under the alternation agreement made with ITV? ITV, by contrast, covered every match available to it live and complete.

Mr Fox also argues that the BBC has made a major long-term investment in coverage of England — yet, as part of the alternation agreement, the BBC allowed ITV exclusive coverage of one of England's three first-round matches, so as to avoid an intolerable level of duplication. Why, then, abandon this approach in the later rounds? The BBC rejected every second-round formula proposed by ITV, including two which would have allowed the BBC exclusive coverage of England v Belgium. So, duplicated pictures of that match became inevitable.

Then, mysteriously, coverage of Ireland also became a *sine qua non* of the BBC's existence: so two of the quarter-finals were duplicated. The BBC was offered a straight split of the semi-finals — no response. Or a split of the non-England semi-final with the third place play-off — again, no response. The BBC's approach — we'll cover England, ITV can do what it likes — is underpinned by Mr Fox's further assertion that the BBC usually wins head-to-head encounters by a two-to-one margin. Given the inherent advantage the BBC enjoys of being able to offer the same pictures with no advertising breaks, perhaps what Mr Fox should really be asking himself is why up to 40 per cent of the football audience last weekend chose the ITV version?

The BBC's appetite for sporting events is legendary, and its pride in its sports department understandable. But as it struggles this week to digest a surfeit of exclusive cricket, motor-racing and tennis (no room for Henley these days, Wimbledon please note), perhaps the BBC may conclude, in its own interests as well as the public's, that it should swallow its pride before it chokes on it, and alternate coverage of non-exclusive events such as the World Cup with its fellow public service broadcaster, ITV.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID ELSTEIN
Director of Programmes,
Thames Television,
306-316 Euston Road, NW1,
July 4.

From Mr D. A. Thompson
Sir, Despite Mr Fox's protestations there can be no justification for the duplication of Saturday evening's football match. The game was between two foreign teams, and the BBC has no public service obligation to the Republic of Ireland.
Yours faithfully,
D. A. THOMPSON,
High Barches, 21 Wood Ride,
Peters Wood, Kent.

In abundance

From Mr P. J. S. Sturges
Sir, On my way to my office this morning, the doorsteps of the West End appear to be piled high with copies of Yellow Pages directories. My own office has received eight copies (because we have eight telephone lines); seven of them are totally superfluous.
Could British Telecom not save some trees (and a fortune) by merely asking their subscribers how many copies they require?
Yours faithfully,
PETER J. S. STURGES,
Boyce Evans & Sheppard,
30 Queen Anne Street, W1,
June 21.

Dog registration

From the Chief Executive of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Sir, Your report, "Plan to register dogs may go ahead" (July 2), implies that local authorities could resist having to operate such a scheme because of the costs involved. This misses the point. One of the selling points of a registration scheme is that not only could it be set up on a self-financing basis, it could also generate the extra funding needed to pay for dog wardens.

The £40 million annual cost quoted in your report with a charge of about £15 per dog is based on research done by the London School of Economics last year. The figure covers the cost of initial registration, maintenance of the system, and a dog warden service. With a dog population of 7.4 million in the UK it doesn't take a mathematician to calculate that a registration scheme could actually boost rather than drain local authority funds.

Far from complaining, most hard-pressed local authorities would welcome a scheme which gives them the resources they need to discharge their responsibilities. The major drawback of all the Government's proposals to date is that they place new duties on local authorities without providing the

Power struggles in health service

From Lord Butterfield

Sir, Sadly, the tone of your leader, "A healthier service" (June 30), is likely to perpetuate the long-standing frictions between the medical professions and the managers in the new-style NHS. We British usually blame "the other side" for any shortcomings of performance.

Twenty years' service on area and regional health boards and authorities has shown me such groups are prone to blame the "consultants" or "general practitioners" for things going wrong. Similarly, over 30 years on medical staff councils in London, Nottingham and here in Cambridge have provided countless examples of doctors blaming "the administrators" when there have been difficulties.

This cold war must stop. It is over 20 years since Mancunian Professor Reg Revans joined with us at Guy's to study 12 London hospitals. It later emerged, from an evaluation of this study by an American, George Wieland, that those hospitals where we judged the medical administrators, the (long-lost) matron and the chairman of the medical staff got on well together personally and learned how to understand each other's difficulties and help each other were in fact the most efficient institutions, with the highest through-puts of cases.

Surely this approach must be right, especially in medical organisations where the prime impulse ought to be to help people, not to make profits — that is why so many of us welcome the dropping of the phrase "internal market" and its replacement by phrases like "joint resource pricing and planning".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BUTTERFIELD,
39 Clarendon Street,
Cambridge,
June 30.

From Dr Stephen Golding

Sir, Your leading article on NHS reform stated that one objective was to end the vested interests of consultants and their domination over hospital managers. I doubt if many of my colleagues recognised the present state of the NHS from your description.

Over the years of service cuts imposed by management in the face of financial stringency many doctors have made good, out of their own commitment, the deficiencies which have opened up in the service.

One example: on a recent Friday I followed my usual full day with an evening seeing pa-

tients on a mobile scanning system hired out of hours because we do not have the facility locally. I finished the day at 1 a.m. by escorting the last patient to another hospital because there was no one else to do so.

I had been at work for 17 hours, without a break for meals, and a full briefcase of my administrative work went home with me. It was a particularly heavy day, but many could tell similar stories. Are these the cosy "vested interests" we are supposed to be anxious to defend? My view of NHS reform — which I strongly support — is that it gives doctors and managers a joint role in ensuring resources are allocated according to the needs of the clinical service and not by dictate from above. But do not suppose our funding difficulties will disappear; they can only become more obvious.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN GOLDING
(Consultant radiologist),
39 Appleford Drive,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire,
July 2.

From the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England

Sir, Hospital consultants should not be blamed selectively for the difficulties experienced by the NHS during the last decade. These have been due much more to a combination of weak management and chronic underfunding than to "doctors protecting their vested interest", as alleged in your leading article.

You are, however, correct in implying that it is the commercialisation of the NHS by the creation of an artificial internal market, and the effect that this is likely to have on the spirit of service which is at the heart of our profession, that concerns us most.

This does not mean that we do not welcome those measures in the new Act which are directed at extending medical audit, improving managerial efficiency and increasing professional accountability. But the information and accounting systems on which these and the creation of an internal market depend are going to be very costly and will inevitably divert much-needed resources from the clinical care of patients unless considerably more funding is provided than is currently envisaged.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE ENGLISH, President,
The Royal College of Surgeons of England,
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2,
July 2.

Community care

From Mr Alan B. Lazarus

Sir, I fear that failure to ring-fence funds for the mentally ill (leading article, June 29) will allow local authorities to use that money for non-essential services, with the hospital closure programme proceeding apace.

Instead of closure, many should be upgraded and improved to provide the basic human care and treatment that the mentally ill deserve. In my experience adequate community care is available in very few areas.

Very few areas that patients in mental hospitals are deprived of dignity, respect and stimulation. My experience, as a father of a daughter suffering from chronic schizophrenia, reflects the completely opposite view; but all too frequently hospital care and treatment have been refused because of the closure programme.

My daughter has received wonderful care and treatment as a hospital in-patient over the last two years, as a result of which she may be rehabilitated. But there are no facilities in the community in the North West Thames Regional Health Authority which would provide round the clock, adequately trained professional staff to enable such rehabilitation to take place.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN B. LAZARUS (Member, medico-legal committee, National Schizophrenia Fellowship),
William Foux & Co. (solicitors),
176 Old Brompton Road, SW5,
June 29.

From the President, Association of Directors of Social Services

Sir, Your leader misses the point. The reason why directors of social services (and others) have argued so vociferously for ring-fencing is not that, in normal circumstances, they dispute that local government should take responsibility for determining its own priorities. The reality at present is that this is just not possible. Government policy — most acutely demonstrated in poll-tax capping — has so shackled them that the freedom from the centre you so desire is a mirage.

Social services departments have at the most experienced growth of 1 or 2 per cent per annum; many have suffered cuts. Yet they are expected to take over responsibility for a programme hitherto funded from a central social security budget which the Government has permitted to rise, presumably in response to identified need, by at least 20 per cent per year, though it is understandably coy about releasing accurate figures.

Ring-fencing or not, without new money community care threatens to be a nullity. The real consequence will be the continued suffering of a large silent minority of human need and their carers, not the occasional horror story in the media with which you rather cynically suggest we have to learn to live.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN REA PRICE (President, Association of Directors of Social Services),
London Borough of Islington,
5/6 Highbury Crescent, N5.

Furthermore, the irresponsible will evade the fee. It is noteworthy that despite the efforts of the police and traffic wardens, £113 million of road fund licences were evaded last year. Evasion of the dog registration scheme will place the cost on the responsible owners who do not need registration.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. MacDOUGALL, Chairman,
The Kennel Club,
1 Clarges Street,
Piccadilly, W1,
July 2.

Maths puzzle

From Mr Colin Dixon

Sir, Higher-level GCSE mathematics candidates were asked to calculate the speed of an Olympic 1,500-metre runner, having been given his time of 3 minutes 35 seconds. A considerable number of answers were of the order of 0.014 metres/second and 714 metres/second (Mach 2+). Have children at the age of 16 years really got no feeling at all of size and number? Incidentally, such skills are described as level 8 (approximately 15 years of age) in the National Curriculum.

Yours etc.,
COLIN DIXON,
Whitley Bay High School,
Dunelm,
Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.

Welsh fears of radar intrusion

From Mr Gwynfor Evans

Sir, There is agreement in Wales that the country's most sacred place is St David's Cathedral and its immediate vicinity. David established his monastery at Glynrhosin in the 6th century, and St David's is the most famous cradle of Welsh Christianity. For a thousand years two pilgrimages there were considered the equivalent of one to Rome.

It is within a mile or two of St David's Cathedral that the British and American governments have recently agreed to construct a hideous over-the-horizon radar base.

St David's was selected from 166 sites considered in the United Kingdom. This monstrous throw-back to cold-war aggression, planned when the Warsaw Pact was still intact, will have, extending for half a mile, 35 aerials, 16 of them 135 ft high.

Locating this installation on the pilgrim's way, so close to St David's Cathedral, in the midst of the beauty of the Pembrokeshire National Park, would be an outrageous act of sacrilege.

Yours truly,
GWYNFOR EVANS
(Honorary President,
Plaid Cymru),
Talar Wen,
Pencarreg,
Llanbydder, Dyfed,
June 29.

Teaching languages

From Mr Lionel F. Cerny

Sir, HM Inspectors say that nearly half the modern-language lessons in the 25 schools they visited last year were "less than satisfactory" (leading article, June 27). How many teachers were gearing their lessons to pupils who were less than satisfactory? After all, teachers, who see their pupils every day, know them far better than any inspector, who sees them for a fortnight at the most.

I spent four years in France and then taught French and German in state secondary schools for 23 years. Many French families speak the equivalent of house-estate English, and I have seen English children return from holidays with French families hating the language, the food, and everything connected with France and the French. If we really want to compete with our industrial and economic rivals, we shall have to emulate them in the sphere of education and reintroduce selective schooling.

Yours faithfully,
LIONEL F. CERNY,
15 Auckland Avenue,
Hull, Humberside,
June 27.

From Dr T. H. Hughes-Davies

Sir, We need to start at five — too young for laboratories or immersion in a French family. Few teachers speak another language well. A generously funded exchange of teachers between every primary school here and in France, Germany, Italy, or Spain would be the most effective way of both increasing their number and stimulating their pupils.

Brussels might contribute to the cost, but in the meantime twinned towns might consider exchanging a teacher for a year rather than a football team for a weekend.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Breamore Marsh,
Fordingbridge,
Hampshire,
June 28.

Drama awards

From the Executive Director of the Royal National Theatre

Sir, Commenting on the fact that no "national company" had won an award at the 1990 Prudential Awards for the Arts, Sir Roy Strong was quoted (report, June 29) as saying: "The nationals are so beleaguered trying to survive they are finding it very difficult to make any great creative thrust."

To be considered for a Prudential Award you have to apply. The National did not apply nor did the RSC, which is one explanation as to why no "national company" was featured in the drama section and rather undermines Sir Roy's comments on the "national" arts scene.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID AUKIN,
Executive Director,
Royal National Theatre,
South Bank, SE1,
July 2.

Sweat of the brow

From the Reverend David Wild

Sir, During my first curacy at Eastleigh in 1935 the Southern Railway works responded enthusiastically to my vicar's invitation to contribute to an industrial festival (letters, June 11, 22).

On the Sunday I addressed the congregation through the lowered window of a third-class carriage door propped against my stall while the vicar did the same through that of a first-class smoking carriage.

Over the years my story has been embellished by others with such pleasant fantasies as that of the verger blowing a whistle as an introit.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WILD,
Yard End, Carters Lane,
Crowcombe, Taunton, Somerset.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number: (071) 782 5046.

HEALTH

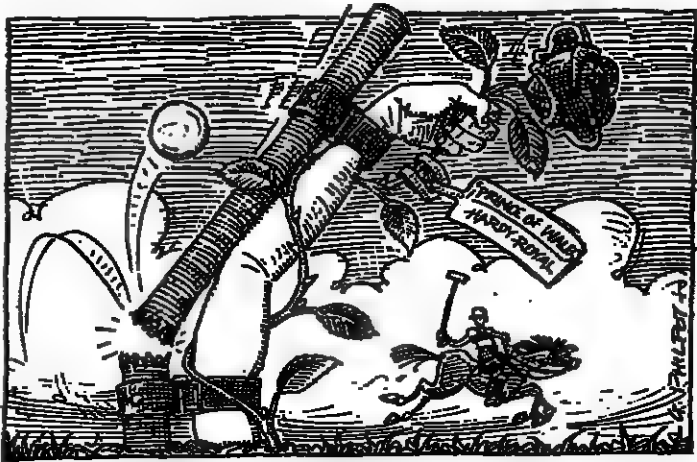
MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttford

Baring a royal arm

Fractures of the shaft of the humerus, the long bone in the upper arm which the Prince of Wales broke last week, usually heal well, but as the Prince needed surgery to realign and fix the pieces together it must be assumed that the break was a nasty one. His was a compound, comminuted fracture: compound because, according to press reports, his skin was broken, comminuted because it was not a clean break, but one in which the bone was shattered.

The humerus supplies support for important blood vessels and nerves as they run down the arm, rather in the same way as a garden post supports a delicate climber. If the post snaps off in a gale, the climber may be torn and die; likewise, when the humerus is broken the nerves and arteries may be damaged, with disastrous results for the muscles in the forearm and hand which they are supplying.

Particularly vulnerable is the brachial artery, which can be severed at the time of the injury, or later damaged by the jagged ends of bone fragments before



the fracture has been reduced and fixed. Fractures of the arm can give rise to a particularly disabling complication if the artery goes into prolonged spasm, even though it may have been no more than bruised at the time of fracture. The effects of occlusion of the arterial supply to the muscles, and to the nerves which supply them, vary, but in severe cases the strong muscles of the forearm can become replaced by fibrous tissue; this later contracts, and as it does so distorts and paralyses the finger and wrist joints, to produce a claw-like deformity known as Volkmann's ischaemic contracture.

The nerves which run close to the bone are also vulnerable; tearing them can cause other distinctive patterns of weakness. Wound infection is always dreaded in compound fractures,

but is now usually overcome by early surgery and the liberal use of antibiotics. If organisms do become enmeshed in bone they are hard to dislodge, and a chronic osteomyelitis with a chronically discharging wound may be the sequel.

Possible later complications include avascular necrosis, in which a piece of the fractured bone is left with an inadequate blood supply, so that it later crumbles; or non-union, in which the bone fragments fail to knit together.

With so many possible complications, any of which could have ended the Prince's polo-playing days, the surprise is not that he spent three nights in hospital, but that he was out so soon. It says much for his determination, and for the surgeon's skill.

Pathology of the sausage

There is some good news for supporters of the English sausage who were dismayed by reports last week that the European Community considered it quite as unattractive, and just about as dangerous, as English football fans.

Dr Andrew Boon, at present a lecturer in pathology at Birmingham University, is a man who enjoys nothing more than sausages for breakfast, but had recently been concerned in case they contained BSE-carrying brain or spinal cord tissue. He determined to apply a pathologist's skills to analyse three samples of sausage, two bought from supermarket chains, one from his local butcher. He subjected them to the same histomorphometric and immunohistochemical studies that he would have applied if they had been specimens not from the grocers, but from the operating theatre or any post mortem material which had been sent for analysis. Glial fibrillary acidic protein, a reliable marker for cells from the central nervous system, was

absent from all the pathologist's sausages, showing that they contained no brains from young stock under six months, and hence exempt from the regulations, nor meat which had been contaminated in the abattoir.

The *Lancet*, commenting on Dr Boon's research, which had been originally reported in the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, suggested that although sausage gourmets may be reassured about BSE, they should still beware, as all Dr Boon's sausages contained a much higher proportion of fat than is generally

realised. Dr Boon, who is moving to St James's Hospital, Leeds, says that when he has settled in he may find time from his studies on cervical cancer to investigate sausages further, for there are other tests which would show if any of the cattle's reticulo-endothelial system, the other tissue favoured by the BSE infective agent, is in the sausage.

"Before the BSE scare I have found pieces of meat in my sausages which look suspiciously like spleen," he says. "It would be nice to know that it is no longer included."

Fish fingers

A few years ago no trendy health centre was complete without a fish tank designed to amuse bored children and soothe the nerves of anxious adults. Little did the patients realise that the staff who tended the fish risked a rare, but very unpleasant, skin disease — fish tank granuloma.

A recent report in the *BMJ* by four Bristol doctors warns that fish fanciers risk catching fish tuberculosis. In the fish the

organism, *Mycobacterium marinum*, causes a prolonged wasting disease and death; in the humans who handle the diseased fish, dip their hands in water in which they have been swimming, or even clean out the tanks, the disease may manifest itself rather less dramatically as a chronic pustular sore on the hands or fingers. These sores may last many months, can be multiple, and can penetrate the tendon sheaths to cause tenosynovitis. Treatment is with Septin (minocycline), or anti-tuberculosis drugs. Prevention can be achieved by wearing rubber gloves.

Is the banana the fruit of victory?

Martina Navratilova is said to swear by them and other stars are banana bingeing, but do they really put zip into sport?

Heather Kirby investigates

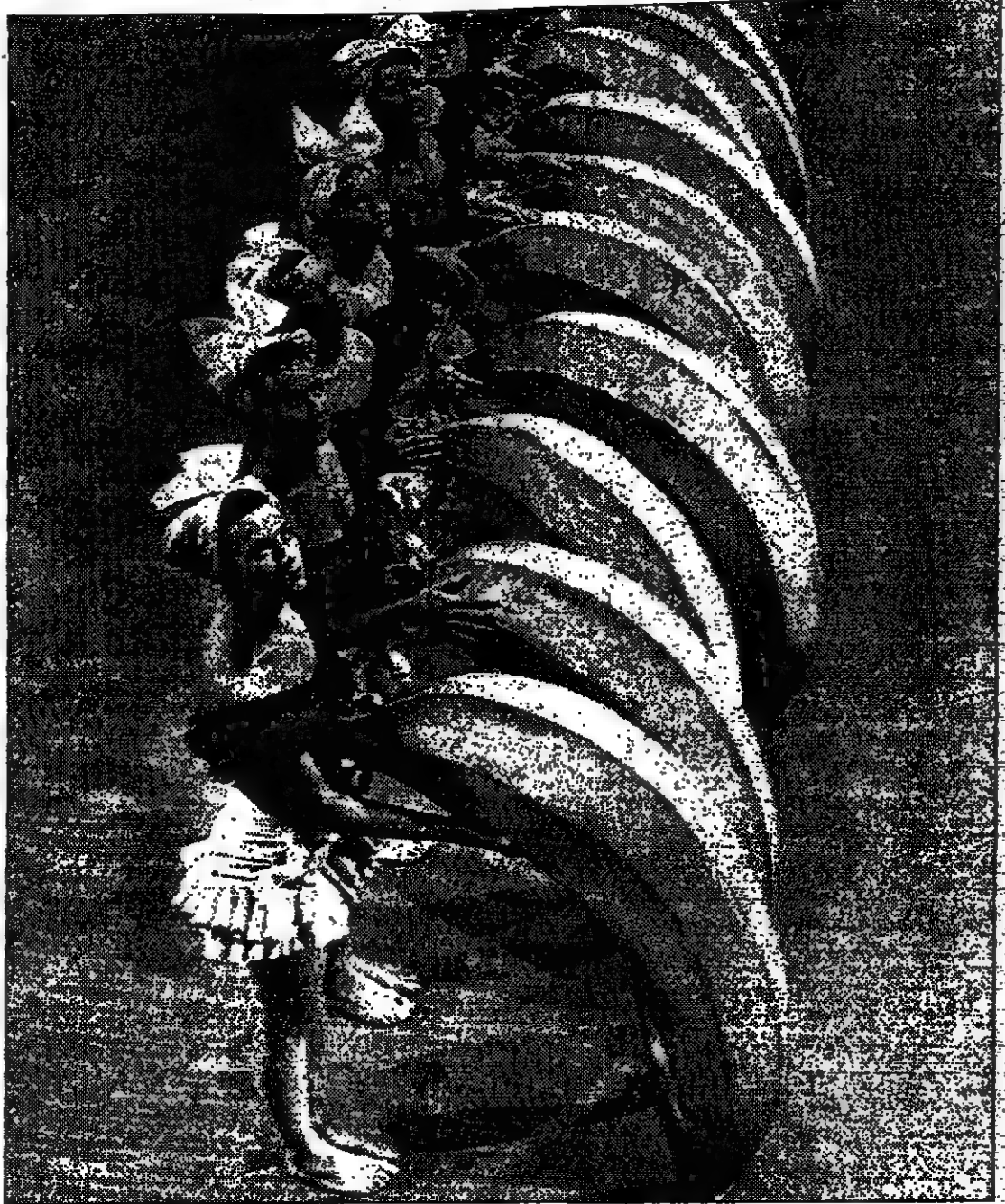
Wimbledon's tennis stars are going bananas over bananas. They already know that the tropical fruits give them instant energy, but the rumour that Martina Navratilova tucks into quantities of them before she goes on court is enough endorsement to make bananas this year's secret weapon.

Every day, 70lb of bananas are delivered to the competitors' restaurant — about 300 individual fruit. The attraction is the high sugar content, which varies with the ripeness of the banana. A green fruit will have only half the sugar of a really ripe one (10g per 100g compared with 20g). As well as being high in simple sugar, bananas contain complex sugars, which produce a naturally delayed release mechanism, making them particularly useful for athletes who need energy over a long period. Cyclists have been addicted to them for years.

An unzipped banana weighing 100g is made up of 79 calories, 19g carbohydrate, 3½g fibre, 1g protein, 0.3g fat, 350mg potassium, 200mcg carotene and a trace of vitamin A. The carbohydrate, in the form of sucrose (ordinary sugar), is converted to glucose and absorbed. According to Dr David Conning, the director general of the British Nutrition Foundation, the energy supply from a glucose drink would be absorbed in about 20 to 30 minutes, whereas that from the banana would take 45 to 60 minutes.

Compared with other fruits, such as apples, oranges or pears, bananas are easy to chew, easy to digest — they lie less heavily on the stomach but give you the impression of being full — they taste pleasant and they are hermetically sealed.

Dr Lawrence Swan, the marketing director of Fyffes, could scarcely believe his luck when he heard the news from Wimbledon. At his office in Dublin, he said: "Some companies spend thousands of pounds to get the stars to endorse their products and we are getting it all free — but that is



Banana drama: a scene from the Carmen Miranda film *The Girls He Left Behind*, in 1943

because bananas are such a superlative product. The fact that they are not junk food, don't come in a plastic wrapper which could be blown about the court, and that they stave off the pangs of hunger which players must get, are among their many attractions.

"Also, bananas have a very high potassium level, three times as high as any other fruit. We need a salt balance in our bodies and although we come across a lot of sources of sodium salt, in everyday cooking for instance, potassium salt is a little more rare. Bananas are often prescribed for nervous disorders, for people with high blood pressure and for older people because the potassium content is good for them."

Pop stars appear to share with athletes a conviction that one particular food is going to hype their performance. Cliff Richard is said to have sworn by ginseng for years and, considering his boyish looks, you could argue that it works. Madonna is said to eat a lot of avocados.

The idea that you can eat your way to victory was popularised by Dr Robert Hase, a clinical nutritionist and athlete whose advice helped bring Ms Navratilova to peak performance in 1982. In his book *Eat To Win*, published by Viking in Britain in 1985, he argued that the traditional "balanced" diet contained too much protein and far too little carbohydrate for athletes and other sportsmen.

In Britain, research into the effects of diet on performance is being carried out at Loughborough University. Professor Clive Williams says there is clear evidence of a link between the two. "The strongest link is between the carbohydrate content of a diet and endurance performance, such as marathon running or hill walking."

If you put individuals on a high carbohydrate diet about three days before competition, their endurance performance will be significantly improved."

Professor Williams says that carbohydrate intake is also important in what he calls stop-start sports, such as football, hockey, rugby or tennis. "For these types of sport, the aim is to reduce training and to increase the level of carbohydrate about three days before the competition or match. Now this is done is up to the individual, but you could eat extra bread, potatoes, rice or pasta. Then, no later than three hours before the event, you should eat a high carbohydrate meal."

"They are easy to chew, easy to digest, they taste pleasant and are sealed hermetically"

During the event, he adds, it is important to drink when you can both to top up with glucose and to replace fluid lost by sweating. "If an event is going on for a long time — such as a hard-fought tennis match — it is also an idea to top up carbohydrate levels by eating something such as bananas."

Professor Williams stresses that a high carbohydrate diet both improves performance during competition and enables athletes to train hard. Researchers are now trying to establish whether diet also helps speed recovery after competition.

The Committee on Medical

Aspects of Food (COMA) recommendations for a healthy diet for the population as a whole are based on 50 per cent carbohydrate, 35 per cent fat and 15 per cent protein. For anyone training for competition, I would suggest that should be 55 per cent carbohydrate, 30 per cent fat and 15 per cent protein. Just before competition you would change that to 70 per cent carbohydrate and reduce the protein. In fact, if you decrease your protein intake the carbohydrate intake usually takes care of itself because you feel hungry."

The professor says that this advice holds good for anyone contemplating any form of physical activity — even a heavy bout of gardening or DIY.

What about the sedentary types who take little exercise of any kind — are there any foods to keep them fit? "If you are not doing anything at all, I suggest you follow the COMA guidelines — but reduce your total intake of food altogether."

Next month a team of psychologists at the Institute of Food Research at Reading will begin work on the effects of food on mood and emotion. "What we are going to try to do with the mood food project is take out the expectation effect and try to look for the true effects," says Dr Dick Shepherd. "Under controlled conditions we are going to see if we can get differences in moods and cognitive performance. You get a strong effect from a placebo: if people believe something is going to be good for them, they will make it good. If people happen to win a competition and think the reason is because they have eaten a banana, no way will they then try to win without eating one. Even if they lose, they will not blame the banana."

Board of practitioners

Australia has the world's first clinic for surfing injuries

Next week, at Tavua in Fiji, a group of doctors with a penchant for surfing will meet for the annual conference of the Surfers Medical Association (SMA). Of 500 members from countries including Chile, France, Australia, South Africa and the United States, the 30 who will spend two weeks at Tavua will divide their time between daytime surfing and evening conference sessions. Subjects scheduled for discussion include skin cancer and first aid for surfers.

The largest contingent of doctors travelling to Fiji for the £500-a-week gathering will be from Australia, the most health-conscious of surfing nations. Among them will be Dr Simon Leslie, aged 38, a casualty and intensive care doctor and the president of the Australian chapter of the SMA, who also runs the first clinic set up specifically for surfers.

The Surf Medicine Clinic opened last October in the coastal town of Wollongong, south of Sydney, at the back of Byrne Brothers' surfboard shop and factory. The idea for the clinic emerged after Dr Leslie met shop owner David Byrne at the antenatal classes they attended while their wives were pregnant. "The general idea was to offer a service to people who thought it was too much hassle to go to the doctor," Mr Byrne says. "A lot of people

used to come into the shop saying they had this or that wrong with them. Now they can just duck in and see Simon."

Noted for their individuality and reluctance to conform, surfers tend not to see eye-to-eye with doctors. "There is also an ignorance among doctors towards surfers," Dr Leslie admits. "They think surfers are fit by the way they look: suntanned and healthy. As a result, when surfers do have a problem, they feel ignored."

The surf clinic, held every Thursday afternoon, tempts many otherwise reluctant surfers to see a doctor with injuries that include skin cancer, septic cuts from coral reefs, broken limbs (generally caused by freak waves crashing down on surfers), "surfer's ear" (a growth across the ear canal caused by prolonged periods in the water), and torn ligaments.

Even in the middle of winter, the clinic is busy; last week, six surfers came to Byrne Brothers to see "the Doc". Paul Evert, a railway worker and keen surfer recovering from a knee operation, sat on the couch as the doctor tested his reflexes. Other patients

included a surfer who broke his neck and is now close to getting back in the water after only a few months of rehabilitation, and another who came in to pick up a medical kit for a trip to Bali.

"To start with I was seeing a lot of guys with skin cancer," Dr Leslie says. "Now I am giving travel advice to surfers going to places like Indonesia. I have designed a 20-piece medical kit for them to take with them."

Dr Leslie says he is willing to keep the clinic going for as long as patients want to come and see him, and Mr Byrne has set aside the room for as long as Dr Leslie wants it. So far the SMA has not endorsed Dr Leslie's initiative in Wollongong, but he hopes that after this month's conference in Fiji a network of similar surgeries can be opened worldwide.

JEREMY HART

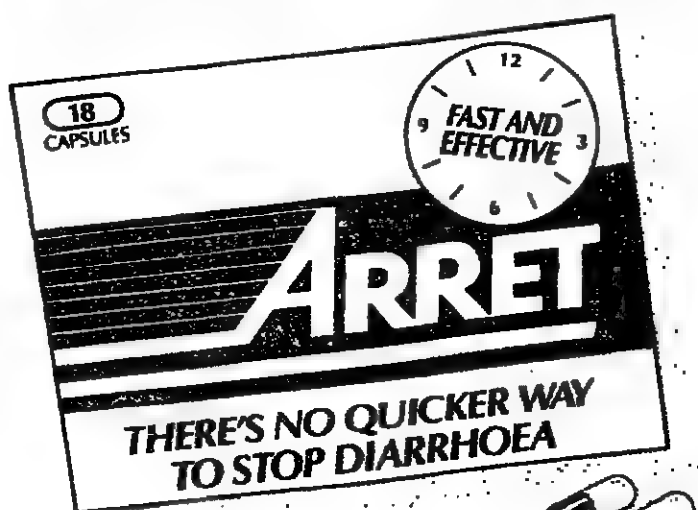
ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL NEED YOUR HELP

The British Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Foundation will use your LEGACY OR DONATION and their veterinary knowledge in the cause of animal welfare. Please contact us at 7 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0AT, or Telephone 071 838 8541

IF YOU CAN'T TRUST THE FOOD



TRUST ARRET



FAST · EFFECTIVE · CONVENIENT
ASK YOUR PHARMACIST

MUSEUMS

When brass reaps its rewards

David Trippier, the heritage minister, yesterday presented the 18th National Heritage Museum of the Year Award to joint winners. Simon Tait reports

The prize for the National Heritage Museum of the Year, a modest £2,000, will do little to change the lives of this year's two winners, the Imperial War Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester. The kudos, however, is much greater and the 1990 title-holders find a value in the award which was not in the thoughts of Abbot Hall in Kendal, the first winner in 1973.

"It reinforces the interest of our sponsors and confirms their confidence in us," says Dr Patrick Greene, director of the Manchester museum since its 1983 opening. Greene has raised about £3 million in sponsorship to bring the huge site of the oldest railway station in the world at Castlefields to the state where, as the competition judges reported, "it includes enough sections to constitute almost a dozen separate museums".

The name, Museum of Science and Industry, is misleading: it has a vast social element. Tagging on to a school tour of the "Underground Manchester" element, which looks at the appalling sanitary conditions when cholera and typhoid were rife and how the city invented itself out of them, I heard the teacher ask what "contaminated" means. "It means mucky, miss," came the answer.

Where there's muck there's brass. But Manchester is mucky no longer, and beside the museum stands a placard, courtesy of the Manchester Development Corporation, which invites potential developers to build around the museum: they had better bring

their brass quickly because the once industrial desert is seeing new buildings rise almost daily. Greene has kept up a momentum of one new development a year. Later this month, an astronaut and a cosmonaut will open the new "Out of this World" permanent exhibition (their air fares and hotels paid for by Manchester sponsors). His next project is "The Planet", rebuilding Robert Stevenson's 1830s locomotive, for which the British Engine Insurance company has provided half of the £60,000 costs. Then he has to find £8.5 million to restore the 1830s railway warehouse, the oldest in the world, to house his massive information technology exhibition.

Greene expects 300,000 visitors this year, 40 per cent of them children. Many will come for the "Experiment" hands-on science gallery, opened two years ago, which has won the museum a special BP prize for initiative. Alan Borg has been head of the Imperial War Museum in London for about as long as Greene has been at Manchester. His task was greater than starting from scratch: he had to make an unattractive, outmoded collection with an archaic name into one worthy of the accolade "Museum of the Year". He succeeded on the basis of a slogan ("Part of your family's history") and an effective fundraising campaign.

The first £23-million phase of the refurbishment of the old building, once the Bedlam lunatic asylum, was opened by the Queen a year ago, with two-thirds more space, a majestic central hall, an art gallery praised by critics and a



Alan Borg, Director of the Imperial War Museum, in the newly-added trench: "It's a relief to have both world wars done now."

recreation of a London street destroyed in the Blitz.

"The key element was simply to make people come, and the way to do it was to relate the material to them personally," says Dr Borg. "War is essentially about people." The central feature of his new first world war galleries, the trench, is not a military motif but a social one: you see Tommy writing home to his dad, the corporal trying to cheer up a rookie, the infantry officer in his homely dug-out telephoning convoluted instructions to the Royal Artillery, the squad trying not to panic as

they wait to go over the top.

"The museum is refreshing," said the judges, "in that it avoids the glorifications of war, has due mention of concentration camps and atrocities — and, most surprising, has a sculpture of a woman's body burnt by radiation in the main displays, not tucked away in the art galleries."

The urban Dr Borg is sanguine about the sponsorship battle. "It is part of being a director now. If I'd wanted to be an academic curator I wouldn't have applied for this job. It's a relief to have both world

Wars done now, but there's still a long way to go."

He has to find another £20 million for phase two, to be completed, he hopes, by the 50th anniversary of the end of the second world war. "The brief is to record 20th-century conflicts in which British or Commonwealth personnel have been involved, and since there is no conflict in which British or Commonwealth journalists, for instance, have not been involved since 1945, it leaves a wide scope." He wants to address the subject of terrorism, as well as tackle the problems of staff

accommodation, find more gallery space for art and create an education centre and temporary exhibition space.

The staff space problem has been solved by a "bequest" from the Property Services Agency of the nearby All Saints Hospital, once a psychiatric hospital and now the home of departments such as conservation and the archives. "It makes me the only museum director in charge of two former lunatic asylums. Funny thing, war."

Leading article, page 13

BOOKS

Purged of prejudice, a Noddy for our times

Joseph Connolly finds that an early hero of the toddling classes is preparing to make a comeback in the publishing world

The year was 1949. "Big-Ears the Brownie" was hurrying through the woods on his little red bicycle, when he suddenly bumped into somebody. That somebody was a stark-naked wooden doll (whom Big-Ears subsequently furnished with a name and a wardrobe) and so began Enid Blyton's best-known saga, that spanned 24 books over 15 years.

This autumn, the publisher, Macdonald, is putting £50,000 behind promoting a new edition of *Noddy* with re-originated illustrations which, along with the text, have been "updated to reflect the tastes of a modern readership". All this means is that the critics who have vilified Blyton over the decades, accusing her of racism and sexism, are finally to be appeased (the "readership" itself never voiced a complaint).

When *Noddy Goes to Toyland* made its debut 40 years ago, Enid Blyton, at 52, was quite simply the most prolific and successful children's writer ever. She had already published well over 300 books (the final tally at her death in 1968 amounting to twice this) and such series as *Mallory Towers*, *St Clare's*, *The Famous Five* and *The Secret Seven* had made her hugely popular with children and parents alike.

The *Noddy* books represented her first attempt at writing for a younger audience, and they proved instantly successful — not least with the concession merchants who, within two years, had *Noddy* and *Big-Ears* on everything from toothpaste to tableware. The visual appeal of the books, indeed, has often been put forward as the primary attraction. This is a reasonable assertion — it was the sight of the highly coloured and stylised artwork of a Dutchman called Harmen Van Der Beek that inspired Blyton to create

Noddy in the first place. (Beck illustrated the first seven books in three years, along with hundreds of *Noddy* strips for the *Evening Standard*, before he died in 1953.)

Throughout the 1950s, Blyton could do no wrong — each *Noddy* book outsold the last, and his hold on children remained as strong as that of his television rivals, *Andy Pandy* and *The Flowerpot Men*. Only towards the end of the decade and into the Sixties did rumblings of criticism begin, these soon rising to a deafening denunciation of Blyton and all her works on grounds of racism, sexism and snobbery (some also suggested that the books were too middle-class and not very well written).

Of course *Noddy* could be an insufferable fellow with his obsession for sixpences and his parping car, and it is true that gollywogs were quite often depicted as being rather naughty (as were monkeys and teddy bears) and that it was the girl who always made the sandwiches — but did all this amount to criminal charges? Apparently so — although the much publicised banning of *Noddy* from many public libraries has been overstated (they simply did not replace copies that had been read and loved to pieces, much to the bewildered vexation of their subscribers). Many bookshops, however, refused to stock the titles, and a *Noddy* book in a middle-class home was soon frowned upon.

Caroline Bishop of Macdonald, which is planning a print-run of 50,000 copies for each of the *Noddy* titles, says the publishers have attacked racism and sexism "in a big way. For instance, all the gollywogs have gone now. Mr Golly has become Mr Sparks, a caucasian." What about the three gollys who mug *Noddy* and steal his car and his clothes? "We thought hard about that: they

are now goblins, who everyone knows are horrid," she says. "Also, in the illustrations, a computer has taken out a lot of the blonde dolls and a new illustrator has put in a more multi-racial mix. Black, yes — but not gollies. As to sexism, a little girl would have said, 'I'm frightened, will you look after me?'. Whereas now she'll say, 'I'm not frightened but I know you'll look after me anyway.' We take the criticisms very seriously."

The trouble is, the criticisms no longer seem to exist. Gill Moore, editor of *Child Education*, says: "I don't particularly like the *Noddy* books, but they do no lasting harm: in fact, they do quite a lot of good if they get children reading." Brough Gilring, head of the Children's Book Foundation, believes that a lot of the sexist and racist attitudes wash over children's heads, although he too does not warm to the tone of the books. "Of course they do no harm — children can handle it all. I liked the stuff in the Fifties. I think we all did, and anything that gets kids reading."

Liz Gee, owner of The Children's Book Centre in Kensington, agrees: "They bring children to books, that's the point. I think *Noddy* is quite nice — I tend to recommend him. I sell a lot of Indian people and Arabs — he's very big in Kuwait."

And not just in Kuwait. The books have been translated into dozens of languages, among them French (where *Noddy* is known as *Oui Oui*, Catalan (*Nody*) and Icelandic (*Doddi*), and worldwide sales now approach 75 million. Only Britain seems to have had reservations in the past, but now we seem to be taking Enid Blyton's own view: "I never listen to any critic over the age of 12," she once said. Welcome back, Little *Noddy* — all seems to be forgiven at last.

CRITIC'S CHOICE: LITERATURE

ZABALAZA FESTIVAL: *Penfins* Mzwelwhe Mbuli is a poet and musician from Soweto, dubbed "The People's Poet". His indictments of South African apartheid, such as on his recent album, *Change is Pain*, are often performed with heavy, clattering percussive music. This is his first visit to Britain. Also appearing are poets Mphahlele Seakgwa, Vusi Makhalela and Lesego Rampokeng from the Transvaal region (tonight). Rap and Revolution. A discussion between Mzwelwhe Mbuli, Ntsepo Victor Shingwenya, Freddy Macha and Barolong Sebosi about the significance of oral poetry during the struggle for freedom in South Africa (today).

ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 3333), today, 1pm, £2, tonight, 8pm, £6 and £5, plus £1 membership.

POETRY SOCIETY: Sebastian Barker, Alan Brownjohn, John Cotton, Hilary Davies, Gavin Ewart, John Loveday and John Mole. A bumper benefit reading in aid of the Society. Gavin Ewart is proficient in most verse forms and can be very entertaining. His topical poems often ridicule the prevailing social conventions and political pretensions. Poetry Society, 21 Ears Court Square, London SW5 (071-373 7861), tonight, 7.30pm, £2.50 (£2), members £1.25.

DEFIANT WOMEN: An evening of poetry and songs, featuring the Dora Tamara Voices, celebrates how South African women have contributed to the long process of change. They are joined by the performance poets Joan Baker, Susan Mabie and Pat Ndlela. As part of the Zabalaza Festival of South African culture. Riverside Studios, Clapp Road, London W6 (081-741 2251), tomorrow, 7.30pm, £5 and £4.50.

ROGER MCGOUGH: Here is a writer and broadcaster, popular with all ages, possessed of fine comic timing. A leading light among post-war performance poets, he will read from an always versatile repertoire. City of London Festival, St Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, London EC3 (071-248 4280), Tues, 1.05pm, free.

OUR FUTURE, THE EARTH: A presentation by Derek Wall and Penny Kemp, co-authors of *A Green Manifesto* for the 1990s, and John Reader, whose *Man on Earth* presents both positive and negative aspects of human interactions with the environment. Watershed Media Centre, 1 Canons Road, Bristol (0272 276444), Tues, 7.30pm, £3 and £2.

CRIS CHIEK

TELEVISION

A candle for caring and cure

THOUGH shamefully under-promoted and therefore oddly under-reviewed elsewhere, Jonathan Stedall's *Candle on the Hill* series — three new BBC 2 documentaries from Bristol on the Camphill Movement — has been a sharp and splendid reminder of television features at its best. Stedall is one of the producer-writers for whom the BBC might have been built. More than 20 years ago, he first began filming at a community in Scotland, founded by Austrian refugees in 1940 for revolutionary treatment of the mentally ill.

Inspired by Rudolf Steiner, the Camphill Project took faith as its root — the idea that children with different handicaps could help one another, guided by a staff of co-workers who live communally and without wages. To some extent this could be regarded as a Gordonstoun type of project: tough, resilient, outdoor self-help from a middle-European tradition imported into the British countryside by devout idealists. But having made his first films there in the late Sixties, Stedall returned to Camphill to mark its 50th anniversary by looking at the way the movement has grown to encompass centres in Switzerland, Germany and America. All of them assume that the handicapped have as much to teach each other and us as we have to teach them. Underlying these new films, though, have been doubts about the current fashion for "normalisation", and the realisation that real integration with the outside world can only happen when the outside world is prepared to accept them on terms of social equality. "The candle on the hill", as Camphill's founder first called his project, is still a light but fluttering in the winds of thoughtless economic rationalisation.

In what could uncharitably be considered a pre-emptive bid for political popularity, the BBC has issued its guidelines to interviewers on how not to be jolly rude to bossy people who might find themselves in charge of its future economic health. Sadly, they have not seen fit to issue guidelines to arts interviewers on how not to be trendy, smug, pseudish or incomprehensible, as in the chattering *Late Show*.

Happily, however, an American ex-White House journalist called Bill Moyers has been selling off some old interview tapes to BBC 2, which have been lessons in intelligent, anti-oriented conversations of a kind for which, over here, you have to tune to Radio 3's *Third Ear*. Last night, Moyers was talking to David Puttnam, not about any specific new movie release or even about his Colombian resignation speech, which must by now be as famous as General MacArthur's departing words from the American army.

Instead, Moyers and Puttnam were looking at the moral responsibilities of Hollywood, with Puttnam convinced that middle-American virtues have been traduced and betrayed by producers on the west and east coasts. Moyers remained uneasily suspicious that even *Rambo* might have done some good for individuality and self-reliance.

Interrupted by no clips, informed by no currently fashionable urban ethic, this was simply a discussion of accountability in cinema. It was underlined by Puttnam's childhood memories of what American movies once tried to be about, and Moyers' uneasy admission that they have failed to recapture the high moral debating ground. Best of all was the moment in the conversation when Moyers suddenly realised that the Oliver North senate hearings were in fact *Mr Smith Goes to Washington*, except that Mr Smith has now become a patriotic crook instead of a backwoods idealist.

Although we still smugly tell ourselves that we do the best television arts programming in the world, you would be hard-pressed to find this conversation on any current British TV channel except as an import, such as its interrupted length, literacy and unconvincing, for currently adored production values. All signs of any producer at work on this conversation were mercifully absent, and Mr Moyers is his own editor.

SHERIDAN MORLEY



Back in favour with the critics: Noddy and Big-Ears go paddling at a non-sexist, non-racist beach

THE ONLY COMPROMISE WE'VE MADE IS ON THE PRICE.



5249: CONTACT CLEANER WAS £149 NOW £110

Compromise is not a word normally associated with Miele. Whilst our high standards never vary, our prices occasionally do. For example — for a limited period — you can save £29 on the Vacuum Cleaner shown above. There are similar offers on Washing Machines, Tumble Dryers and Dishwashers. See your nearest dealer and check out all the savings to be made. You can clean up with a Miele. For more information call 0235 554488.

Miele

ANYTHING ELSE IS A COMPROMISE

THE Sanderson SALE

SATURDAY 30th JUNE 9.00AM - SATURDAY 28th JULY 5.30PM

UP TO 50% DISCOUNT ON:

FABRICS, WALLPAPERS, BEDLINEN

(discontinued designs, slight seconds)

UPHOLSTERY AND CABINET FURNITURE

(ex. Showroom Models)

ACCESSORIES, LIGHTING, EX ROOMSET ITEMS

UP TO 15% DISCOUNT ON:

SELECTED UPHOLSTERY AND FURNITURE

ORDERS PLACED DURING THE SALE.

SPECIAL PROMOTION ON

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE,

SOFA-BEDS AND CHAIRS

Sanderson, 52 Berners Street, London W1

CAFORD CIRCUS OR TOTTENHAM COURT RD. TUBE STATIONS

MON-FRI. 9.30AM-5.30PM SAT. 9.00AM-5.30PM

مكتبة الأصيل

Cartoon cop with a dead, cold centre

David Robinson reviews this week's releases: Warren Beatty's *Dick Tracy*, plus *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down*, *Reunion*, *Joe Versus the Volcano* and *Listen to Me*

With *Reds*, Warren Beatty, as director and star, embarked on his trilogy of American heroes. *Reds* celebrated John Reed, enthusiastic chronicler of the Russian Revolution. Beatty's planned biography of Howard Hughes is still to come, but the trilogy's second hero has arrived with *Dick Tracy* (PG, Odeon Leicester Square). The creation of the comic-strip illustrator Chester Gould, Dick Tracy first appeared in 1931, about the time that *Little Caesar* inaugurated the classic era of the gangster film. Like these films, *Dick Tracy*'s adventures reflected both a wave of public indignation against lawlessness that had gone practically unchecked in the decade since Prohibition, and a fascination with the new urban underworld.

Tracy and his faithful Tess Trueheart found themselves up against the worst bunch of gangsters imaginable. Their moral ugliness was reflected in their looks, which earned them nicknames like Pruneface, The Rodent, The Bow, Lips, Flattop and Mucus-face (who is absent from the screen version, happily perhaps).

Beatty has gone to great pains to recapture the world of Dick Tracy. Richard Sylbert's design, with elaborate matte and miniature effects, recreates the comic-strip metropolis, with its skyscrapers, shadowy lamp-lit streets and no-man's-lands of warehouses and slums.

The imagery is inspired not just by comic-strip, but by gangster films, German Expressionist cinema and cartoons. The great cinematographer, Vittorio Storaro, has faithfully captured the simplified palette of unshaded colours. The make-up miraculously recreates the bizarre physiognomy of Gould's drawn grotesques. To translate the visual quality of comic-strip to the screen is an interesting exercise, and *Dick Tracy* achieves it with more success than *Batman*. (Earlier

Dick Tracy films and TV shows, between 1937 and 1951, did not attempt it, preferring to go for realism.)

But it is easier to achieve the look of comic-strip than the dramatic style. The daily four-picture sequence generally presents a single incident, with the classic structure of "Aargh! Pow! Bam! and Ouch!" and a cliff-hanging final image, teasing on to next day's instalment. This dramatic method, along with the necessarily one-dimensional characters who people two-dimensional cartoons, does not readily transpose into the continuous narrative of a film. The team of Jim Cash and Jack Epps Jr has not solved the problems. The film sags markedly when it gets into the plot; and the dialogue sadly fails to emulate the terse economy of comic-strip balloons.

Like most goodies, *Dick Tracy* himself has always been a rather cold, dead centre to the parade of lively grotesques around him; and the same goes for the film. Beatty gives himself a somewhat thankless role as the phlegmatic hero; and his manly resistance to the wiles of Madonna, as a beautiful blonde art-deco siren, makes for very subdued love interest. He is at his best in scenes with his earnest infant protégé (Charlie Korsmo). In terms of upstaging thought, evil always triumphs. Like Jack Nicholson in *Batman*, Al Pacino's marvellously nasty Big Boy and Dustin Hoffman's small role as the inarticulate Mumbles easily steal the show.

The latest film of Spanish enfant terrible, Pedro Almodóvar, is *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down* (18, Lumiere, Gate, Screen on the Hill). The director is currently the subject of a National Film Theatre retrospective. The story is a happy-end comedy version of the familiar daydream that inspired John Fowles' *The Collector* and William Wyler's film of the book.

A 23-year-old man is released from a psychiatric ward after a lifetime in institutions. Determined to embark on marriage, he sets his sights on a beautiful young

hooker and porn-film performer. His courtship is simple: he breaks into her flat, ties her firmly to the bed and locks the door. Almodóvar is no respecter of feminist sensibilities: in his version of the daydream she gets to like it.

Almodóvar is a capable storyteller, and, since the success of *Women on the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown*, can afford more technical polish. This one is well cast, with an enjoyable comic performance by the veteran star Francisco Rabal as a porn-film maker. Success with the mainstream audience has also somewhat curbed the worse excesses of Almodóvar's childlike urge to shock, though *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down* has enough nudity and bizarre sex to have launched a major cause in the US, where the distributors have taken their protest against the film's X-rating to the Supreme Court.

Based on an autobiographical novel by Fred Uhlman and scripted by Harold Pinter, Jerry Reunion (12, Odeon Haymarket) views the catastrophe of Nazism in terms of private emotions, rather than the more familiar aspects of war and violence. In the Stuttgart of the early Thirties, a Jewish adolescent (Christian Anhalt) strikes up a friendship with a sensitive, aristocratic schoolfellow (Samuel West, son of Timothy). The friendship is intense and rewarding; but after the summer vacation and the fateful election of 1933, the changing atmosphere begins to distance them; and they part for ever when the Jew's parents send him off to the safety of America. The story is told in flashback, as the recollections of the Jew, now a rich, elderly émigré (Jason Robards), revisiting Stuttgart to trace the fate of his family.

It is a quiet film, with style and elegance. The two young actors are intense, touching, and uncannily of the period. Both the production design by octogenarian Alexandre Trauner and Bruno de Keyser's photography effectively contrast

the bright new Stuttgart with the quiet, gracious town of half-a-century ago; the aristocratic home has become a tax office. Some things though do not change: the old anti-Semitism persists.

Joe Versus the Volcano (PG, Warner West End, Cannons Haymarket, Oxford Street) casts Tom Hanks as a hypochondriac clerk who is told he has only weeks to live, and trades his last days to a rich entrepreneur who needs someone to jump into a volcano. After a promising comic opening in the run-down surgical supplies warehouse where Hanks works, the film hurries out of control into runaway, over-the-top fantasy.

Hanks's laconic response to every catastrophe remains funny; Meg Ryan works hard in a triple role as the women in Hanks's life, and there is colourful support by Lloyd Bridges, Robert Stack and some ripe character players. John Patrick Shanley, who wrote and directed it, was on surer ground with his script for *Moonstruck*.

Listen to Me (15, Cannons Pantons Street, Tottenham Court Road) is a novelty, a high school movie that proclaims true-blue Republican values. The writer-director, Douglas Day Stewart, calls it "a movie for the Nineties where young people are concerned with serious things: social and political matters. A new Sixties is dawning — one which is not drug-related, but based on ideals and achievements." Now there is optimism!

The chief college sport is debating, which the kids (Kirk Cameron, Jami Gertz, Tim Quill) pursue with excruciating intensity and a lot of American anxiety about class and privilege. Between times they agonise about their handicaps: the poor little rich boy, the kid from the wrong side of the tracks, the traumatised rape victim, the crippled beauty. They defeat Harvard in the national finals with their emotional defence of the proposition that abortion should be illegal. The old style bawdy college pictures at least knew they were stupid.



Madonna, right, as the sultry torch singer Breathless Mahoney in Warren Beatty's *Dick Tracy*

That's enough cartoon heroes, pleads Geoff Brown. Hollywood should start making films for adults again

Square-jawed bores

In 1912, at the age of 12, Dick Tracy's creator Chester Gould earned his first salary with an entry for a cinema exhibitors' contest — in his home town of Pawnee, Oklahoma. The theme was the pulling power of films: young Chester drew a magnet, neatly labelled "movies", pulling a vast audience in its wake.

The boy's prescience was remarkable. In one bold image, he had crystallised Hollywood's iron grip over the public mind in the decades to come. Through his skill in visualising his given concept, he had also revealed a hint of Hollywood's future dependence on the talents of the country's comic-strip draughtsmen.

Last summer, the magnet being held before audiences was *Batman*, the costly extravaganza conjured up from the comic-strip created by Bob Kane. This summer, the big-budget hopeful is *Dick Tracy*, fashioned from Gould's own comic-strip, with Warren Beatty, Madonna, a Stephen Sondheim song, and a host of cameo notables. It is no coincidence that both films share comic-strip origins: for the last decade and more, Hollywood has regularly plundered America's cartoon legacy for heroes, villains, story-lines, even ideologies.

Gould's *Dick Tracy* — a tough-fisted, right-thinking, square-jawed cop — first saw the light of day in 1931, in the pages of the *Chicago Tribune*, the *New York Daily News* and other syndicated papers. The character's opening line was positively namby-pamby: "Good evening, Mr Trueheart, how's the delicatessen business this evening?"

Appearances proved deceptive. Tracy's adventures brought the guns and blood of the gangster era into the comic-strip world for the first time. Gould's visual style was broad and brutal, with liberal use of stark outlines and black shading. The villains masqueraded under grotesque features and colourful names — Mrs Pruneface, Flattop, Big Boy Caprice; but they could all be felled by a swift upper cut from Tracy's mighty fists or a jab from his impossible jaw.

Tracy's battles against crime were far too popular to be left to the newspapers. Within four years, the cop fronted a radio show. By

1937, he leaped onto the silver screen — appearing first in serial form, incarnated by Ralph Byrd, upstanding hero of many minor adventure movies. Four features followed in 1946-7. No costly marketing campaigns or fanfares of hyperbole ushered the release of these humble spin-offs: they were conceived simply as potboiling fare, useful fodder for the cinemas' "full supporting programmes".

Now they make fodder for video merchants: all four features are due to be released on cassette in Britain in mid-July. The viewers' best bet is *Dick Tracy vs. Gruesome*, blessed with Boris Karloff as the vicious wielder of a gas that freezes people in time.

Forty years on, former Hollywood values have been turned on their heads. Studios now pour piles of time, talent and resources into the kind of films that were once produced with little more than a shrug of the shoulders. Like many things in the new dispensa-

tion, the origins can be traced to the boy wonders of the 1970s, Steven Spielberg and George Lucas. They forged a new path for popular entertainment by yoking together the naive spirit of vintage movie serials and comic-strips with the latest developments in special effects and the other machinery of make-believe. The result was *Star Wars*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and company: magnets pulling new, young audiences into the cinemas to stare, slack-jawed with wonder, slack-brained with delight, at elemental conflicts between good and evil.

Anti-heroes — the delight of the Sixties and early Seventies — suddenly became as dated as the old mincing matinee idols. Superheroes now took the high ground. Beginning with *Superman* in 1978, comic-strip characters took on a new lease of life in films lurching drunkenly between grandiloquence and self-parody. The biceps and machine gun brigade — Stallone and Schwarzenegger to the fore — took over the

hard-core action market. Corpses piled up; soundtracks resounded to biffs and bangs while dialogue shrank to clichés, monosyllables and grunts. Hollywood's popular movies, to all intents and purposes, turned into live-action comic-strips.

There could, of course, be worse fates: who would want films to be live-action knitting patterns? Yet it is hard not to feel depressed by Hollywood's relentless rejection of original material in favour of the hand-me-downs of times past, served up anew in inflated productions, top-heavy with stars, egos, extravagant sets, and dialogue couched in the stylistic equivalent of inverted commas.

At the moment, a huge youthful market exists for such spectacles. But there is also a sizeable, older audience, left out in the cold, who scour the art and revival houses for Woody Allen, sex, lies and videotape, or any film with characters, not caricatures; any film where people air their problems with literate talk, not obliterate the opposition with bulldozers, machetes, fists, or ray-guns.

Whatever the commercial fate of the glamorous, much-hyped *Dick Tracy*, it is high time Hollywood's magnet tried pulling the crowds in a different direction.

CRITIC'S CHOICE: VIDEO

A weekly selection of films recently released on video. The year refers to the date of first release, or in the case of television films, of first broadcast.

ANNA KARENINA (Warner, PG): Vivien Leigh in the 1948 Korda version of Tolstoy's classic. A plush production, but the central triangle is trivialised, and Kieron Moore makes a lumphish Count Vronsky.

BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II (CIC, PG): With Michael J. Fox (already too old for teenage roles), and the frenzied Christopher Lloyd, zipping to-and-fro through the time spectrum 1989.

BILL AND TED'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE (Castle, PG): Saly, dishevelled but amiable teen-comedy, helped along by engaging performances from Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter as woolly-headed teenagers, boning-up on history with the aid of time-travelling. 1989.

CROSS CREEK (Warner, U): Martin Ritt's lusciously photographed and unlikely biography of American writer Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings (author of *The Yearling*). Mary Steenburgen tries to

make the heroine live, but the corn is simply piled too high. 1988.

THE DELINQUENTS (Warner, 15): Kyle Minogue's first lunge at cinema — a routine story of delinquent teenagers in the Fifties, daintily handled to prevent shocking the star's young fans. With Charlie Schlatter. 1989.

IN COUNTRY (Warner, 15): Over-earnest problem-piece mingling the stones of a country girl coming of age (Emily Lloyd, coping splendidly) and her uncle (Bruce Willis) — a Vietnam veteran struggling with nightmare memories. 1989.

MANHUNTER (CBS/Fox, 18): Forceful and stylish cops-and-robbers tale from the creator of *Miami Vice*, Michael Mann, with William Petersen as an FBI agent. 1988.

TWO MOON JUNCTION (CBS/Fox, 18): Hideously ponderous drama of sexual obsession in Alabama, with unfortunate lead performances, but an interesting supporting cast (Kristy McNichol, Burl Ives). 1989.

VIVA ZAPATA! (CBS/Fox, PG): Marlon Brando as the Mexican revolutionary, directed by Elia Kazan, written by John Steinbeck. A handsome production, though lacking the feeling of fire that the material demands. 1952.

Geoff Brown

Samurai celebrated with a left-wing tint

Mark Le Fanu on a relatively unknown Japanese director, now being featured at the NFT

There was a time, not so long ago, when Western knowledge of Japanese cinema directors was limited to Kurosawa, Ozu and perhaps Mizoguchi. If that has now changed, at any rate in Britain, some of the credit must lie with the pioneering programme policies of the National Film Theatre, which over the last decade has mounted complete seasons of lesser-known (yet, in their way, equally splendid) artists such as Goshu, Naruse, Kinoshita and Shimizu. During July, the NFT intends to add to this list by celebrating the work of Masaki Kobayashi.

Kobayashi, born in 1916, is best known in the West for two stunning samurai films, *Harakiri* (1962) and *Rebellion* (1967), to be shown on July 17 and July 8 respectively. Both of these films were shot in the black-and-white cinemascope format which Japan mastered so well in the Sixties; both of them star the great Toshiro Mifune; and a further similarity is that, while demonstrating to a high degree the beauty and rigour of classical swordsmanship (with action sequences as magnificent as anything in Kurosawa), both films offer what might be called a left-wing critique of *bushido*, the samurai code which enjoined a vassal to put the needs of his lord



A scene from *Power and Spectacle*, a film by Japanese director Masaki Kobayashi, whose work is being screened at the NFT

before those of his family.

This tragic pull between the two allegiances is, in fact, the trigger of the plot in both cases, and it allows the Western viewer to observe at close quarters something characteristic of the Japanese mentality: their deference to authority and their reluctance to take part in the least act of rebellion.

Thus it is that when rebellion finally does emerge in these films, it erupts with a dramatic impact. Experiencing these movies for the

first time is like experiencing some lost art of tragedy, before art and religion had become separated. Walter Benjamin famously claimed that the theatre "had forgotten that it could ever be terrible". Perhaps the theatre has — but not, if we are to believe our eyes, the cinema.

Although it sounds like a dubious honour, Kobayashi is also known for directing one of the longest films ever made — at nine-and-a-half hours, about as long as

Heimat or *Shoah*. The movie in question is *The Human Condition* (1959-61), an account of the conquest of Manchuria, and Japanese rule there until defeat at the end of the second world war. It will be shown in three instalments on successive evenings from July 25 to 27 and, despite its rather formidable subject-matter, is not to be missed.

Other gems include *Kaseki* (1974), a wonderfully-shot journey in modern Europe, and the

magnificent ghost story, *Kwaidan*, inaugurating the season on July 3. I ought to give a warning, however: both these latter films are rather long, if not as long as *The Human Condition*. Kobayashi's art has as much a personal rhythm as Wagner's had, and it is necessary to be prepared to relax into it. The rewards should prove to be worth the wait.

● The Kobayashi retrospective is at the National Film Theatre, London SE1 (071-928 3232)

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents

ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST SPECTACULAR DANCE COMPANIES

LEZGINKA

DIRECT FROM DAGESTAN IN THE USSR

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

WED 25 JULY TO FRI 3 AUGUST

NIGHTLY 7.30PM INC SUN, SAT 11.30PM

Tickets £6 to £17.50 071-928 8800 INC CC

PACO PENA and his FLAMENCO DANCE COMPANY

in a SPECTACULAR

Spanish Fiesta

Direct from Spain... a fantastic evening of Spanish flamenco and dance... words & greater flamenco... guitarists PACO PENA and his... flamenco company

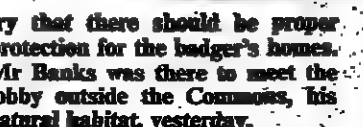
29 August - 2 September

Wed-Sat 8pm Sun 7.30pm

£8.50, £12.50, £16.50, £12.50, £16.50, £16.50

BARBICAN 071-638 8891

[illegible]



Published by the Chicago Tribune Company, 435 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.
Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office, July 6, 1920.

Price Index: 125.2 (May)

هكذا من الأصل

R Fleming advances to £36.5m

By ANGELA MACKAY

ROBERT Fleming Holdings, the privately-owned financial services group, increased after-tax profits from £27.1 million to £36.5 million in the year to end-March. But directors pointed to flatter earnings in the current year.

Although rising costs and a delayed shock from the October 1987 share market crash ate into profits in the previous year, the group had shown a strong recovery, according to John Manser, the group chief executive.

He said securities trading, albeit profitable, was lower than last year. He pointed out that the company last month decided to shut down its British market-making operation to avoid future losses.

Mr Manser said about half of the group's profits were generated by asset management and half by banking, trading and corporate finance. He added that corporate finance had made a much bigger contribution since concentrating on medium-sized firms. The division completed 242 deals last year.

Jardine Fleming, the group's 50 per cent owned Asian subsidiary, contributed

about £20 million to after-tax profits.

Robin Fleming, the new chairman and a grandson of the company's founder, said the downturn in activity on the Japanese stock market had affected profits from this region.

This was reflected by the substantial decline in the performance-based salary of the group's most highly paid director. Based in Asia, the unnamed director earned more than £1 million in 1988, but only £507,000 last year.

Robert Fleming, which is half owned by directors and half by institutions, is expanding into Europe. It obtained a banking licence in West Germany and has improved the securities sales team in France.

Mr Manser said the private client business in Britain had also been developed recently with the addition of 18 former employees of British & Commonwealth, the collapsed finance group.

Save & Prosper, the investment management arm, also had a good year, the result of increased sales of pension and personal equity plans.

Ridley orders French to cut water stake

By MARTIN WALLER

GENERAL Utilities, owned by the French group Compagnie Générale des Eaux, has been ordered to reduce its 29.9 per cent stake in Mid Kent Water Company to below 20 per cent by Nicholas Ridley, the trade secretary (Martin Waller writes).

But no action is being taken over the 25 per cent stake in another statutory water company, Mid Sussex, which is held by Southern Water, one of the 12 area boards privatised at the end of last year.

The water industry has been awaiting the rulings as a guide to the government's attitudes towards the increased consolidation of the water industry in recent years. Both stakes were referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for examination at the start of the year.

Mr Ridley has gone further than required by the commission in bringing to heel the French company, which now faces a loss on its investment if it is required to reduce its Mid Kent stake immediately.

The commission was looking for undertakings from General Utilities and its parent that they would not become involved in management, would not take a seat on the board, would not block special resolutions and would not seek privileged access to financial and commercial information. Only if such undertakings were not given did the commission believe

that any of the stake should be sold.

Mr Ridley, however, has decided that it might not be possible to devise effective undertakings to protect the public interest, ordering that a third of the shares be sold anyway and requiring General Utilities not to seek board representation.

Dr Angela Whelan, water analyst at Barclays de Zoete

Wedd, did not believe the ruling represented a government block on takeovers of water companies by French concerns, which, she thought, were unlikely to be attempted in the short term anyway.

"The signal that's gone out isn't so much anti-French, though because the French are the main predator it will be interpreted as that."

"The signal is to back off for

a couple of years," she said.

General Utilities said it was disappointed at the secretary of state's decision but refused to comment on whether it would be obeyed.

The commission decided that as Mid Sussex was already controlled by a French group, SAUR Water Services, Southern Water's acquisition of its stake in February last year could not operate against

the public interest. Under the relevant legislation Mr Ridley therefore has no powers to act against the holding.

Northumbrian Water, the smallest of the 10 privatised water companies, reported pre-tax profits of £54.8 million in the year to end-March, £4.5 million above the forecast in the prospectus.

Times, page 25

TPS agrees £15m offer from Swiss

By PHILIP PANGALOS

TECHNOLOGY Project Services, the supplier of contract engineering personnel, has agreed to a £15.6 million cash offer from Société Générale de Surveillance Holding.

This group is based in Switzerland and is the world's largest independent inspection and testing group, employing 23,000 staff and operating in 140 countries.

SGS (United Kingdom), a subsidiary of the Swiss group, is offering TPS shareholders 325p for each share. There is also a loan-note alternative.

TPS shares closed at 5p to 325p on the news. SGS has received acceptances for 2.88 million TPS shares, or 60.09 per cent. On the basis of TPS's results for 1989, the offer values TPS at an exit multiple of 14 times.

The offer represents a 20 per cent premium above the 270p share price immediately before TPS announced that Richard Avery, the chairman, was discussing the sale of his 29.8 per cent stake and that this could lead to an offer for the company.

The stakes were trading at about 210p before speculation concerning the sale of Mr Avery's shareholding.

SGS intends to supply TPS with an international network that should enhance overseas opportunities, particularly in continental Europe.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Hollas falls to £2.63m but improves payout

HOLLAS Group, the Manchester clothing distributor and yarn processor, suffered a 13 per cent slide in pre-tax profits to £2.63 million in the year to end-March. Turnover advanced 16 per cent to £57.6 million, boosted by an 11-month contribution from Hawkhead Sportswear, the Cumbrian outdoor clothing retailer acquired for £8 million in April last year. However, Hawkhead failed to meet profit forecasts because of high stock levels.

Earnings per share fell from 6.6p to 3.8p. The final dividend is maintained at 1.6p, making an improved total of 3.2p (3.1p) for the year. There was an extraordinary charge of £181,000, relating to closure costs. Interest payments rose 34 per cent to £1.09 million, although gearing has been reduced from 31 per cent to 28 per cent. Barclays de Zoete Wedd is looking for pre-tax profits of £2.2 million in the current year.

Motor dealer up to £4.45m

REG Vandy, the motor dealer which came to the main market via a placing of shares in October, reported pre-tax profits of £4.45 million for the year to end-April, against £3.8 million last year. A final dividend of 2.4p a share is equivalent to a total of 3.6p had the shares been listed throughout the year, compared with a 3.375p forecast in the flotation prospectus. Earnings per share rose from 10.5p to 11p.

Profit dips at shopfitter

CAMPBELL & Armstrong, the office, shopfitting and building services group, is planning to step up from the unlisted securities market to a full listing. The new company's results for the year to end-March showing a slip in pre-tax profits from £3.06 million to £3.01 million on turnover 29 per cent higher at £74 million. Earnings per share fell from 17.5p to 13.8p, but the final dividend rises to 3.35p (3.3p), making 5p (4.95p).

Westport cuts payout

WESTPORT Group, the USM marketing services group in which Carlton Communications has a 27 per cent holding, has cut its total dividend from 1p to 0.6p for the year to April 30 in a move that reflects the difficult conditions in the retail and advertising sectors.

The company lifted pre-tax profits by 11 per cent to £2.23 million on turnover 38 per cent higher at £18.8 million. But earnings per share, diluted by last August's £16.2 million purchase of Carlton Fox and Carlton Studios, slipped from 2.3p to 1.4p. The exhibition division has seen tighter margins. The board said the remainder of 1990 looks difficult for the division.

EFG slumps at half-time

PRE-TAX profits at EFG, the forest management and garden centre company, fell from £1.24 million to £495,000 in the six months to April 1. Turnover was ahead by 37 per cent to £25.4 million. Income from the sale of property and investments was only £12,000, against £594,000. Interest costs jumped from £85,000 to £487,000. Earnings per share plunged from 7.4p to 2.31p. However, the interim dividend is held at 1.25p.

£12.5m deals for Kunick

KUNICK, the leisure group, is spending up to £12.5 million on two deals. It is buying the Oakcrest Group, which runs five freehold nursing homes in Yorkshire, for £5.75 million, plus £100,000 payable depending on planning consent. Kunick is buying Ferrymatics, an amusement machine operator, for £1.75 million, plus an extra £4.9 million subject to profits. A placing of 4.2 million new shares at 59p is to help to finance the deals.

No Shield dividend

SHIELD Group, the residential developer and estate agent, is again passing its final dividend despite a tenfold rise in pre-tax profits to £640,000 in the year to March 31. This leaves shareholders with no payment at all compared with 1p last time. The company made an operating loss of £630,000 before £1.3 million of interest receivable.

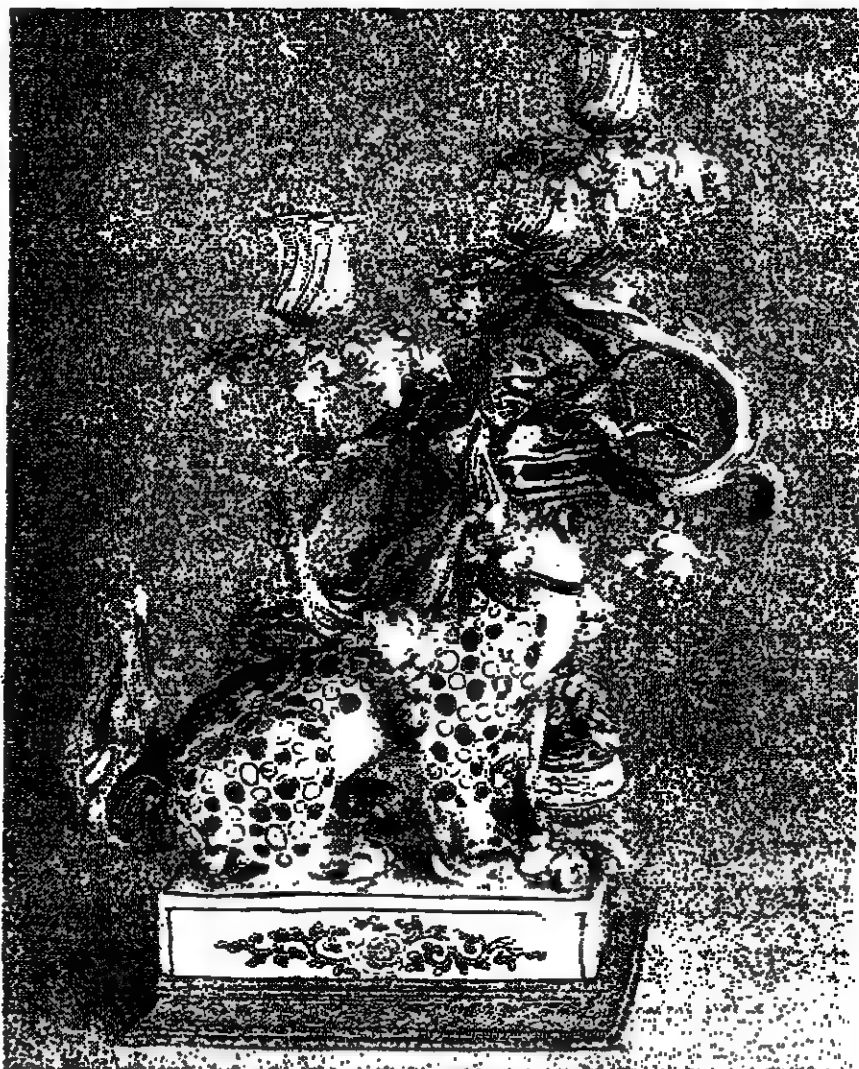
Pre-tax profits in 1988-89 had been almost wiped out by £654,000 of exceptional items associated with the cost of closing branches of Suckley & Kent, the north London estate agent. Norman Mazure, the chairman, said the losses at S&K had continued last year, although the firm was establishing itself as a specialist property insolvency service.

17th century Europe. A patchwork of states and principalities with a growing awareness of the Orient, and a taste for Chinese ceramics.

But trade with the East is a difficult and precarious affair, and when established patterns are disrupted by the demise of the Ming dynasty. European eyes turn to Japan, and to a tradition of porcelain that will reign supreme for a hundred years.

A fashion, yes, but one so highly regarded, interiors are changed to enhance its display; so popular, domestic industries respond with assimilations that become an established part of the European ceramics repertoire.

Now you can retrace these developments for



yourself in "Porcelain for Palaces", a 350-piece exhibit that rediscovers the influence of Japanese porcelain on the styles and tastes of Europe.

Sponsored by Fujitsu, a world leader in computer, communications and semiconductor technologies and a company with a long-standing commitment to cross-cultural exchange, "Porcelain for Palaces" is presented jointly by The British Museum and The Oriental Ceramic Society.

Photo shows a Shishi lion mounted in ormolu as a candelabrum, Japan, 1670-90. The mount, probably French, c.1750. Height 34cm. From the collection of the Residenzmuseum, Munich.

Discover how the fashion of a century survives in the heritage of a continent.

Porcelain for Palaces

The Fashion for Japan in Europe 1650-1750

July 6 - November 4, 1990 New Japanese Galleries, British Museum

Admission Free

FUJITSU

The global computer & communications company.

THE BECKMAN HOTLINE
0898 700 190
Daily investment bulletins from the UK's leading financial advisor

GENERAL MARKET REPORT 0898 500 191
ACTIVE SHARES REPORT 0898 500 192
POPULAR SHARES REPORT 0898 500 195

NEW! CROWN FM LIVE
London's Financial Radio Station
0898 44 44 77

CALLS COST 25p (CHEAP) & 30p (OTHER TIMES) PER MINUTE (NCTV BROADCASTING LTD, THE TELEPHONE HOUSE, LONDON, NW1 9RP)

مكتبة الأصيل

A little comfort from the Cape

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

More than a crumb of comfort was offered by the deputy chairman of the African National Congress to investors and potential investors in South Africa, but not a great deal more. Until somebody comes up with a better idea, state participation in business appears to Nelson Mandela the only way of curing the imbalance in society, in which ownership is concentrated in a few white hands.

That said, nothing emerged at the CBI yesterday to suggest that South Africa, post-apartheid, would go down the Eastern European command economy route. Sir Brian Corby's warning of the dangers of nationalisation seemed already overtaken by the ANC thinking. The Freedom Charter is still on the table, but its dots and commas will be rearranged. Mr Mandela and his allies need help to define the nature of the mixed economy which has been pledged, and it is clear he is concerned to create a mixture which is attractive to private capital. Without that South Africa will be confirmed as a deteriorating, unstable third world economy, but if the pattern

for democracy can be agreed in the near future, South Africa will maintain its role as the powerhouse of southern Africa.

In the meantime, it is important that British companies keep the door open and Mr Mandela has come up with a package of suitable doorstops. His requests are not so different from the practices already followed by the best examples of British companies already operating in that country, except that first among them is that "Apartheid South Africa" should be isolated.

The ANC shopping list from British business includes:

- material resources which will enable it to repatriate and resettle those whom apartheid forced into exile;
- resources for educational work;
- help with training black managers, both in business schools and at the work place;
- dialogue to define the content and parameters of the partner-

ship between international business and prospective government.

The ANC will be shopping not only in Europe, and if British companies are keen to maintain their position, they should listen hard. According to Kent Durr, the South Africa trade and industry minister, foreign companies are lining up billions to pump into motors, mineral, metal and chemical sectors. One project is Johnson Matthey's plan to build a catalytic converter plant, but many will be from Britain's competitors.

At the same time, however, Mr Mandela needs to recognise that there are other, possibly more exciting, calls on the investment community, especially from the

liberated former command economies of eastern Europe. The economic parameters need defining soon.

Vanishing Sid

Like motherhood, virtue and ownership is a Jolly Good Thing. There seemed little dissent between the interest groups which took part in a discussion on the subject at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council.

But judging by the papers presented to the meeting, there is precious little radical thinking these days on how the decline in

private shareholdings might be arrested and reversed. There is depressingly little agreement on a basis for the debate.

The Government congratulates itself on an unprecedented rise in the numbers of individual investors during the Thatcher years.

Almost a quarter of the adult population, some 11 million people, hold shares directly. That is an achievement of sorts, but it must be read alongside the fact that while ownership is spread far more widely, it has at the same time become pitifully thin. Many of the new shareholders, attracted at least in part by the questionable attraction of a fast buck offered in many privatisation issues, own about £1,000 worth of stock. The contrast with the 1960s, is stark. Then about 50 per cent by value of British equities were owned by individuals, whereas today the figure is closer to 20 per cent.

There is likely to be little

progress until there is some agreement on the ultimate objectives of promoting wider share ownership. Surely the best reason for investment is expectation of profit by the investor and his immediate family. Until the barriers which make other forms of investment more attractive are removed, or equity investment is placed on a level playing field, shareholding will at best remain a low priority option.

Britons have invested many times more in their homes than in equities in the post-war period, helped by massively favourable tax breaks. They have also been encouraged to save via pension funds, again far more tax efficient than putting on the market.

The tax incentives given via personal equity plans and other government-inspired schemes go only part of the way towards addressing the disadvantages of buying shares directly.

The hard reality is that there is little political will to remove the tax concessions on housing and pensions or to make the same advantages available to small shareholders. Blaming Sid is no way to tackle the problem.

TEMPUS

Monument to a City hero

THE City loves to back a man on a winning streak. Tony Craven Walker, who is behind the rebirth of Monument Oil & Gas, is very much of that mould. Of the last nine wells drilled in which Monument has an interest, eight are regarded in the City as successes. Not surprisingly, Monument shares have become one of the most highly-rated stocks in the exploration and production sector.

There could scarcely be a better background for a rights issue or a more timely move. Monument announced yesterday. It is buying the operations of Nimex, the private company set up by Craven Walker with the powerful backing of Paribas, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert and Electra House, bringing in a well-spread portfolio of international exploration prospects. It is paying £20 million, against a £29 million independent assessment of the oil and gas assets changing hands.

To fund the deal, there is a seven-for-25 rights issue at 37p a share, to raise £28.75 million. After building up Charterhouse Petroleum, only to see it sold from beneath his feet to Fina, Craven Walker structured his return to the publicly-quoted arena via Monument, so that Nimex held a blocking stake of 40 per cent. By minor adjustments to the cash held in the Nimex

companies being acquired, the shares issued to pay for the deal are precisely the number Nimex would have taken up in the rights issue. In effect, Nimex is meeting the rights call by the transfer of exploration assets instead of taking up its shares, and its 40 per cent interest is unchanged.

After the sale, also announced yesterday, of its stakes in the Bruce and Keith fields for £7.8 million, Monument will have cash of £35 million on a pro forma basis.

The shares, down 3 1/2p at 42 1/2p, are still cheap.

Northumbrian Water

NORTHUMBRIAN Water's ambitious and admirable plans for diversification into industrial and chemical waste management appear bogged down in the planning process just when its heavy investment programme means the approach of a downturn in profits.

The company reported full-year pro forma profits before tax of £54.8 million yesterday, £4.5 million higher than forecast at the time of the December flotation. But Northumbrian has been keen to stress that the level of dividend cover, 4.9 times, for the year to end-March cannot be maintained. Dividend growth

is set to outpace the rate of inflation by a few points.

Analysts are looking for pre-tax profits of between £44 million and £48 million, given that capital expenditure has to grow from £56 million to more than £100 million.

Northumbrian's riskiest option for diversification, its possible 20 per cent stake in the Wearside and Tyneside television cable network, is mercifully, given the heavy expense involved, still a few years down the line.

Closer to home is its intention to build as joint ventures two integrated waste treatment plants and a chemical incinerator. These are now edging their way through the planning process despite strong local objections. Analysts are convinced that these will transform the group and could eventually offer annual earnings of £7 to £10 million. Until then, a prospective yield approaching 8 per cent puts strong support under the current price.

Greene, King

GREENE, King was hoping for an English win last night so that football devotees would head for the pub to celebrate. Sitting indoors does not help its case, especially as higher interest rates are already affecting consumer spending patterns. The company is also hoping

the market quickly overcomes its shock at the exposure to £22 million of debt problems which come via its 40 per cent stake in Big R Leisure, which runs roller-skating operations. These largely explain the extraordinary £989,000 provision in latest figures. It was that concern which lopped 10p from the shares to 370p.

Misfortune obviously follows the brewer. Difficulty in placing Elders' 13.5 per cent stake this year did the shares little good, and over the past year they have underperformed the market by 31 per cent.

The 1990 outcome, with pre-tax profits at £20.1 million (£19.2 million), and a final dividend of 6.9p (6.1p), making 9.8p (8.7p), masks a healthier 20 per cent rise at the trading level to £18.2 million, but follows a sharp rise in debt. Net interest paid at £1.36 million against £87,000 put year-end gearing at 12 per cent, which after May's £15.25 million deal with Ind Coop to buy 87 public houses, is due to rise to 20 per cent.

Meanwhile, the company has an extensive land bank which will be useful profits ammunition when the property market improves and a modest 1991 profits advance is still expected. On a projected £22 million this year, the p/e is 10. Best wait for the interim report before committing fresh funds.

Apple bites back in fight over copyright



Facing battle with Apple: John Young of Packard

LEGAL action faced by Borland International, the London-quoted Californian maker of computer programmes, is about to upset the normally quiet atmosphere-controlled world of computer software.

The chip-melting issue is copyright infringement. Observers forecast a deluge of legal actions this summer after an American court ruling last Thursday.

At stake is whether a package of software equipment can be protected under the same American laws which prevent songs, films and books being copied without permission.

That protection was reinforced by Judge Robert Keeton in the Boston federal district court last week. In a 113-page ruling, he said that copyright applies to displays on a computer screen.

The decision supported industry claims that the structure, sequence and organisation of a software package should be protected by law. The industry calls this brand of copyright violation the "look and feel" test: when one software package performs in an identical way to another.

The Boston case was brought by Lotus Development, one of the world's largest computer software makers, whose best-selling product is the 1-2-3 spreadsheet system.

The court decided that system had been copied without permission by Paperback Software International, of California, and Stephenson Software, of Canada. The two say they will appeal.

Four days after the judgement, Lotus launched two similar actions. One against Santa Cruz Operation, of Northern California.

Close observers of the software industry, conservatively estimated to be worth \$10 billion a year, predict a deluge of similar cases.

They say the legal actions will cost millions of dollars in damages to those guilty of violation, could put others out of business and provide a new rich seam of work for copyright lawyers. Damages in

these cases are usually calculated on the number of infringing products which have been sold.

Lee Gesmer, copyright expert and partner in Lucas, Gesmer & Updegrave, the law firm, said: "The longer the infringement lasts, the more the offending firms are putting into the banks of the plaintiffs. The Lotus case with Paperback... didn't break any new legal ground, but it represented a major contribution to the trend of protecting the expression of an idea."

Mr Gesmer said that ex-

pression had been protected under American corporate law for almost 200 years. "We expect a significant growth in these cases now."

"Some firms around Boston and on the West Coast have a number of lawyers whose speciality is copyright infringement in the computer industry. We estimate there are millions of dollars at stake."

The legal action by Lotus has wiped 27 per cent off the Borland share price on fears that its Quattro Pro spreadsheet software, allegedly a copy of the 1-2-3 system,

accounts for half its total business.

But the battle royal this year will involve Apple Computer suing Microsoft, the market leader, and Hewlett-Packard, where John Young is president and chief executive. The joint case is expected to be heard this summer. Central to that copyright issue is whether either company has the right to use a certain type of window system which Apple Computers claims is its own and for which no licence has been granted.

Robert Therrien, a computer analyst with Paine, Webber, the New York broker, has labelled Microsoft shares unattractive since the battle began more than a year ago. He said: "My sense of it is that, with precedents which Apple has used successfully before, it will win. And if it does, there will be a severe impact on Microsoft, and then you have to look at how that will affect Microsoft's relationship with IBM."

"And is all this in the stock price? The answer's no," added Therrien.

Microsoft shares eased \$1.50 to \$71.50 on Tuesday, but the \$4 billion company is still trading close to the high for the year of \$78.75, up from a low point of \$25.75 in the past year. Apple was unchanged at \$44, its shares having traded between \$30.375 and \$32.125 this year.

More than \$340 million has been wiped from the value of Borland, whose shares dropped a further \$1.375 on Tuesday, beginning the two-day fall to \$5.75 and valuing the company at \$921 million.

Mr Richard O'Donnell, a spokesman for Borland, said: "We believe our product is original."

Borland has sold 300,000 copies of its Quattro and Quattro Pro spreadsheets and claims 25 per cent of the North American market. Lotus has 60 per cent.

Mr O'Donnell said there would not be a steep learning curve needed for computer users who may switch from the Lotus 1-2-3 system to the product of his own company.

Philip Robinson

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Wedded to his job no longer

ONE of the original "Wedd eight", the former Wedd Durlacher partners, led by Charlie Hue Williams, who joined Kleinwort Benson five years ago to establish its market-making arm, is leaving. News of the departure of Willie Mellon - which will, he says, be phased over the next couple of months - was broken to the KB troops yesterday. "I do feel sad, but the time has come," old Eltonia Mellon, aged 47, tells me. "This is a young man's game." Still undecided about his plans, the one thing he is certain about is that he will be spending more time with his current stable of nine horses, hunters and potential eventers. "I have a house in Knightsbridge and another in Northamptonshire, which is where I keep the horses," he says. "I hunt in Northamptonshire." Although he was coy about identifying the hunt, it was, he said, adjacent to that frequented by Lord Boardman. When in London he will amuse himself by dabbling in antiques with old friend Charles Edwards, who already runs a flourishing business in King's Road. "But he doesn't know about this yet - the idea has only just occurred to me."

YESTERDAY got off to an unpromising start for Nelson Mandela, who was due to put in an appearance at the Confederation of British Industry at 9am. His hectic

schedule was already running late, but his speech was running even later: he arrived at a good quarter of an hour before his aides, who rushed in with the text shortly before 10 am. He then confessed that he had lost his spectacles, and was using those of Winnie, his wife. He would, he said, be able to read the speech only with great difficulty. Nobody would have guessed....

Front door this time MARK Pejacevich, the Hungarian count smuggled out of the back door of Hungary in 1947 in a tea chest via a British army lorry, arrived to start a new job at Robert Fleming Securities this week, in a rather more conventional fashion. "I was smuggled out by the British military mission," Pejacevich, aged 66, recalls. He and long colleague



"He has even downgraded our holiday."

Maria Tebaldi, the only Italian member of the International Stock Exchange, have joined Fleming's after resigning from Stock Group, the troubled British & Commonwealth broking outfit. "Maria and I have worked together for 22 years, first at Grieson Grant, where we were partners, then at Simon & Coates, which became Chase Securities. In February this year we joined British & Commonwealth." A colourful double act, the pair specialise in selling British and European equities to European clients and Pejacevich denies that he has any retirement plans. "I will not retire as long as I am enjoying my work and at the moment I am enjoying it with renewed vigour." He describes his arrival at Fleming's as something of a homecoming. "My son Peter worked here for five years, when he was straight out of Cambridge, so I do know the place." Peter now runs the British and European division of Bessemer Trust.

Watch my lapse LIKE Alexander the Great, who wept because there were no more lands to conquer, Gerald Ratner, chairman of Ratners, the jewellery group, has indicated that this week's £240 million bid for Kay Jewelers in America will be his last big deal there. "Once we have bought Kay's there really isn't anything big left to go for," he complains. Observers point out that there is still Zales with 1,900 outlets, but Ratner is adamant he wants only 10 per cent of the

American market, and the Kay deal will leave him just 500 shops short. No more big deals or rights issues then, he was asked? "Watch my lips," Ratner replied. "No more rights issues." Oh dear....

PHILIP Courtenay-Luck, who this week led a £59 million management buyout of the confectionery and snacks division of Hazlewood Foods, has come full circle. Within the buyout package, he is buying back Sweetmate, a company he founded and sold to Hazlewood for £8 million in 1986.

Rock 'n' high rollers AS PINK Floyd and Paul McCartney joined a star-studded host of celebrities at Knebworth Park last weekend, there was little evidence of a City presence. But bucking the trend was Baring Securities, seemingly the only firm from the Square Mile to put in an appearance and apparently only too happy to pay £500 a head for the privilege. Their guests were feted with champagne, amid the comfort of a hospitality village which incorporated a large viewing platform for those hoping to catch a glimpse of the action on the distant stage. At a cost of £20,000 a marquee, no one can accuse Barings of doing things on the cheap. "We believe that we had some happy clients," says Trevor Sliwinski, head of the warrants team, after the event.

Carol Leonard

TOMORROW COULD BE TOO LATE TO DISCOVER THAT YOU'RE UNDERINSURED.

WITH PROSPERO YOUR HOME CONTENTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY COVERED FOR UP TO £30,000.

If a burglar called today would your insurance cover the value of everything that was stolen?

With Prospero Home Contents insurance you can be confident that it will. This is a new, simpler type of policy which gives you a greater degree of cover for a lower premium. So you're unlikely ever to be underinsured even if you add to your home contents.

Prove it for yourself. Call 0800 86 87 88 free of charge or complete the coupon below for a free quotation without obligation.

NO NEED TO WORK OUT THE VALUE OF YOUR CONTENTS.

With most home contents insurance policies you have to add up the value of your possessions yourself. That means you could actually underestimate their value. Or you might forget to tell your insurance company when you buy something new.

With Prospero you don't have to bother because you'll automatically be covered up to the maximum claim limit of £30,000.

AUTOMATIC 'NEW-FOR-OLD' COVER.

This means that we'll replace any article, with the exception of clothing, with a new one, no matter how old it may be.

10% DISCOUNT.

To make your Prospero policy even better value for money, if you or your spouse are over 50 we'll reduce your premiums by 10%.



FREE SMOKE DETECTOR.

This British Standard approved smoke detector could save your life. And it's yours FREE when you take out Prospero Home Contents insurance.

SPECIAL HELPLINE AND CRISILINE.

To help if you need to claim - or simply need advice in an emergency - there's a special number you can ring for immediate help.

PAY OVER 12 MONTHS AT NO EXTRA COST

With Prospero Home Contents insurance you can pay your premiums monthly. And, unlike most insurance companies, we won't charge you extra for the privilege.

PHONE, FREE OF CHARGE, FOR A FREE QUOTATION WITHOUT OBLIGATION.

0800-86 87 88

HOURS OF OPENING: 8.00am to 8.00pm Mon. to Fri. 8.00am to 12 noon Sat.

NOW'S THE TIME TO ACT.

Post today to: FREEPOST, Prospero, Prospero House, Northgate, Morecambe LA3 3PZ. NO STAMP NEEDED

Please send me a free quotation for Prospero Home Contents insurance which I will be under NO OBLIGATION to accept. I've never suffered more than 2 losses in the last 5 years. I've never been convicted of, or charged with, any criminal offence other than a motoring offence. I've never been refused insurance or had special terms imposed.

Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms/Other (specify) Surname _____
 Forenames _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____
 Date of Birth _____ (There's a 10% discount if either of you are 50 or over)
 Spouse's Date of Birth _____
 Occupation/s _____
 Phone No. (inc. STD) Home _____ Daytime _____
 Number of Bedrooms (please tick): ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4
 Date Cover is to commence _____

prospero

PROSPERO POLICIES ARE UNDERWRITTEN BY PROSPERO ASSURANCE

THE INSURERS OF PROSPERO HAVE BEEN LICENSED BY THE FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE UP TO 10% DISCOUNTS AND FREE SMOKE DETECTOR, PLEASE CALL 0800 86 87 88

This policy is available only to people permanently residing in England, Scotland, Wales, The Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

0800 86 87 88

**Bull
trad
to se**



Its biggest brother, the T5200, with a powerful 386™ chip, scooped the award for the Best Mains Powered Portable. At 100 megabytes it more than doubles the storage of most desk-bound PCs. The screen is so crisp your sales charts will look even more impressive. All our portables take every kind of industry standard business software package, so you can really take your company places.

**To: Toshiba IPS Marketing, PO Box 421, Freepost, Addlestone, Weybridge,
Surrey KT15 2UZ. Please send me details of Toshiba's portable range.**

NAME (MR/MRS/MS) _____ POSITION _____
 COMPANY _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____ POSTCODE _____
 PREFERRED DEALER (IF ANY) _____

IN TOUCH WITH TOMORROW

TOSHIBA

PORTABLE PERSONAL COMPUTERS · COPIERS · TELEPHONE SYSTEMS · PRINTERS · FAX

**Cash card
for £10
at Verso**

VERSION 1-10-78
REPT OF RESEARCH IN THE
IN THE RESEARCH IN THE
ONLY IS RESEARCH IN THE
WITH A RESEARCH IN THE
RESE.

The new strategy of
control is to be
implemented in the
after the new
Director of the
percent of the
some other
not taking
respect
represent
of the
under
Investment

These plans are available with insurance coverage for up to \$100,000. For more information, call 1-800-444-4444.

Size Versus Quality
Based on January
data the average size of
new engineering firms
had increased
from 1970 to 1979.
The average number of
employees per firm had
increased from 10 to 15.

During the year to the end of January, production had climbed 93 per cent from 1.5 million, before the war, to 2.9 million, helped by the introduction of a new machine for the production and the British Federal and Anglo-American Engineering.

**Tough tr
Brown &**

BROWN & Taseco, the
line and state stock
which issued a trading
in March, yesterday
reported pre-tax profits down
percent to \$5 million for
year to the end of March.

earnings per share of 13p, reflecting a £9.7 million acquisition by Fasteners in April 1994, as well as the decline in profit. The total dividend stands at 13p, after a final 6.05p. Gil Black, chairman, says that there had been

COMPE
SURREY GROUP (F.C.)
Pre-tax: £0.89m (£0.25m)
EPS: 1.12p (0.26p)
Div: 0.075p (nil)
BORCOMBE PROPERTIES
Pre-tax: £0.55m (£0.15m)
EPS: 0.68p (0.18p)
Div: 0.05p (nil)

EPS: 61.52p (25.14p)
 Div: Nil, mkg 55p (50p)
UMECO (Fin)
 Pre-tax: 20.77m (20.64m)
 EPS: 9.8p (9.0p)
 Div: 2.24p, mkg 3.815p
SHOPIRE GROUP (Int)
 Pre-tax: 20.54m (20.87m)
 EPS: 6.9p (5.7p)

GLOBE INVEST
BRITISH CO

0800
FREEPH

...of the ...
...in the ...
...best ...
...of the ...
...to the ...

'Bullish' hotels beat trading difficulties to see revenues rise

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE HOTEL sector, one of the few industries to shrug off the worst effects of Britain's difficult trading conditions, is enjoying rising revenues as room occupancy rates continue to edge higher.

Average daily room charges — the amount actually paid in contrast to advertised or rack rates which may be discounted — rose 9 per cent last year to £47.51, according to the latest annual survey by Horwath Consulting, part of the Stoy Hayward consultancy group.

The survey shows that all regions experienced revenue growth, and concludes that, despite more difficult trading conditions, "the industry remains in a bullish mood" following a spate of acquisitions and the creation of several new public hotel companies.

There has been a surge in hotel investment in England, some £4 billion last year, a 70 per cent rise on the year before, says Horwath, which expects investment levels to slip back this year because of the effect of higher interest rates.

The increase in investment

stemmed from several developments. There has been an increase in the number of budget hotels, which charge between £20 and £30 a night. Leading companies in this sector include Trusthouse Forte with its Travelodge and France's Accor with its Ibis and Formula One hotels.

Jonathan Bodlender, a director of Horwath, has forecast a general reduction in the services offered by hotels. He says "the trend towards... the reduced levels of service, now illustrated in both budget and all-suite hotels, will develop in all sectors of the industry."

"Most new products will be offered with almost no personal service at all and unserviced accommodation may become as accepted in commercial, as it is in holiday, destinations."

Another factor behind the investment surge has been the increasing popularity of golf, which is fuelling an increase in the number of hotels linked to courses.

Occupancy rates in London, already at a healthy level, rose 1 per cent to 76.2 per cent last year. The achieved room rate

was almost £75 a night, an increase of 9 per cent over 1988. The rise was in line with the inflation rate for the hotel sector.

Labour costs in hotels rose 1.3 per cent but fewer staff were employed. However, the overall productivity index for London hotels declined.

Three big luxury hotel developments in London are due to open in a year — the refurbished Dorchester in Park Lane, the reconstructed Langham near Portland Place and the converted St George's Hospital site at Hyde Park Gate. Plans are being drawn up for conversion of the County Hall site.

In the provinces, achieved room rates rose almost 10 per cent to nearly £41 a night. Scotland's average stood at £39, a 7 per cent gain. Scottish hotels were helped by a 10 per cent growth in international tourism last year. In Wales, average occupancy rates rose 1 per cent to 53 per cent. In Northern Ireland, tourist arrivals reached record levels last year but the number of hotel "bed nights" remained static because visitors stayed for shorter periods.

Colefax pastes up elegant 48% advance

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH



Colefax look: David Green, upper-class decorator, samples its Kingcome sofas

THE Japanese wear their wealth, the Germans save it and the English plaster it on their walls, according to David Green, chief executive of Colefax and Fowler Group, purveyor of wallpaper to the upper middle classes. The English tendency is one of the reasons his business is going from strength to strength.

Pre-tax profits rose 48 per cent to £4.01 million in the year to April, turnover rose 61 per cent to £30.7 million and earnings per share rose 16 per cent to 13.4p. The final dividend is 2.4p making 3.7p for the year, a rise of 12 per cent.

Mr Green claims that his business is not dependent on the property market. Colefax and Fowler clients include Buckingham Palace and the Bank of England. "Our market tends to be redecoration," Mr Green says. "Our clients are the sort of people who are permanently redecorating, a couple of rooms at a time."

Mr Green is discreet about his clients. He does not say so, but they are not people who are postponing tiling the bathroom until mortgage rates drop. Work in progress includes a fifteenth century fortified house on a Greek island, two yachts and the restoration of an important English country house.

The product division, including the Colefax and Fowler brand, the Kingcome sofa business, Cowtan & Tout and Jane Churchill now makes up 80 per cent of the

group's business, with the decorating division the remaining 20 per cent. Mr Green says that the decorating division is an important way of keeping in touch with customers.

Business in the United States is good, and what Mr Green calls "the faded elegance" look is still in vogue. American sales have risen by 15 per cent and sales in Europe by 22 per cent. Nearly half of Colefax's business is overseas. The look is modified for the European market, where the light is brighter and the colours tend to be brasher.

Mr Green and his team are working on the German market, where tastes are more neutral and homes more functional. "It tends to be beige, beige, beige and light brown," he says, "and delivery has to be at nine o'clock on Tuesday. Nine o'clock on Tuesday is the important thing, the colour tends to be secondary."

Jane Churchill, the design business acquired last year when it was losing money, is now breaking even and Colefax is launching a range under the Churchill name aimed at the younger market.

Group gearing is about 20 per cent and there are no acquisitions planned, although complementary niche acquisitions will be considered.

At the mention of the ill-fated Coloroll, Mr Green winces. "I haven't even written to the receivers," he says. "One thing we are determined to do is to stay in our own market."

Cash call for £10m at Verson

By OUR CITY STAFF

VERSON International, the supplier of capital equipment for the manufacturing industry, is raising £10 million with a two-for-seven rights issue.

The new shares are being offered at 40p each against yesterday's price of 47p just after the news of the issue.

Directors, who speak for 45 per cent of the company, and some other shareholders are not taking up their rights in respect of 16.2 million shares, representing about 62 per cent of the issue, which has been underwritten by the Citicorp Investment Bank.

These shares were placed with institutional investors at 3½p per nil-paid share. Tim Kelleher, the chairman and chief executive, said the rights issue would help the company to continue its expansion and reduce borrowings of £19.5 million.

Since Verson's shares were re-listed in January, 1988, after the reverse takeover of Bronx Engineering, the company had returned compounded growth in earnings per share of 50 per cent, said Mr Kelleher.

During the year to the end of January, pre-tax profits climbed 93 per cent to £3.22 million, before exceptional items, helped by the acquisition and integration of British Federal and Metform Engineering.

Banks hurt by bail-out for Trump

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES

SIX of America's largest banks are set to raise their poor-performing loans substantially after agreeing a bail-out deal for Donald Trump last week.

Citicorp, Chase Manhattan, Bankers Trust, Chemical Banking Corp, New York Corp, and First Fidelity Bancorp are expected to follow Manufacturers Hanover in reclassifying their share of the \$850 million of Trump debts on which interest payments have been either reduced or deferred over the next five years.

Manufacturers Hanover has indicated that its \$150 million of loans to the American businessman will lift the bank's total of non-performing loans to just over \$1 billion.

The bank says that a reorganisation plan to cut costs will also mean a substantial charge on second-quarter profits, reducing them below the \$96 million that was earned in the first three months of this year.

Analysts said that they expect all the banks involved in the Trump rescue package will place his debts on the problem loan list.

First Fidelity has said it will increase the debt that is not meeting repayments on original terms by almost \$300 million when reporting the company's second quarter earnings. A large part of those debts will be Trump loans.

Tough trading reduces Brown & Tawse profit

By MARTIN BARROW

BROWN & Tawse, the pipeline and steel stockholder, which issued a trading warning in March, yesterday reported pre-tax profits down 37 per cent to £6 million for the year to the end of March.

Earnings per share fell 40 per cent to 13p, reflecting the £39.7 million acquisition of Jay Fasteners in April 1989, as well as the decline in profits. The total dividend stays at 9.5p, after a final 6.65p.

Gil Black, chairman, said that there had been a sharp deterioration in trading conditions during the final six months, with no sign of any improvement in the opening weeks of the current year.

B&T's core distribution business is heavily dependent on the depressed civil construction sector and most operating companies experienced a fall in demand for their products, particularly for stainless steel, which was affected by oversupply and "frenzied" price-cutting.

The long-term viability of each business in the group is being assessed.

COMPANY BRIEFS

SHUREY GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: £0.89m (£0.25m) EPS: 1.12p (0.20p) Div: 0.075p (nil)	Turnover £21.3m (£17.2m). Extraordinary item of £540,000 has been written off. Surplus property disposals realised £235,000.
BOSCOMBE PROPERTY Pre-tax: £0.07m (£0.06m) EPS: 61.52p (85.14p) Div: Nil, mkg 55p (50p)	Final results. Gross rental income climbed from £574,000 to £635,000, although investment income slipped from £13,000 to £3,000.
UNIECO (Fin) Pre-tax: £0.77m (£0.64m) EPS: 9.8p (9.0p) Div: 2.24p, mkg 3.815p	Last year's total dividend was 3.5p. Turnover up 17% to £11.8m. If there is no demand downturn, board expects continued growth.
SHOPRITE GROUP (Int) Pre-tax: £0.94m (£0.87m) EPS: 6.9p (6.0p)	No dividend (same). Company has purchased a freehold site of five acres in Scotland for £1.1m.

GLOBE INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

The offer from
BRITISH COAL PENSION FUNDS

0800 666 602
FREEPHONE GLOBELINE

The Directors of Globe Investment Trust PLC are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. The Directors confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The Directors of Globe Investment Trust PLC accept responsibility accordingly.

Nissan proudly present an amazing little number for August...



£4,995*

If you're feeling gloomy about the current economic climate, here's some news that should brighten you up.

We're celebrating the sale of our quarter-of-a-millionth Micra by offering the 3-door Micra S at a special low price of just £4,995*.

The offer applies to cars ordered from July 1st and registered by August 31st.

So, to make you even happier, your new special-priced Micra S can sport the latest 'H' registration.

In case you don't realise how special the Micra S price is, suffice it to say that it's over £900 LESS than competitors from Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot.

And the good news doesn't end there.

AN ECONOMIC MIRACLE

The Micra S is an expert in the field of economic restraint. Its clean-burn alloy engine with maintenance-free electronic ignition is one of the most powerful in its class, yet gives remarkable lead-free economy of up to 56.5 mpg*.

RELIABILITY OF THE HIGHEST ORDER

This is no idle boast. The latest confirmation comes from Britain's biggest independent providers of roadside assistance — the National Breakdown Recovery Club.

From records based on nearly two million members they produced a table of the top twenty most reliable cars in Britain. We're delighted to say that

Nissans swept the board, taking 1st, 2nd and equal 3rd places.

LUXURY STANDARD EQUIPMENT

With Nissan a low price doesn't mean a low specification. High grade cloth upholstery, adjustable head restraints, electronic-tune radio, double-folding rear seat, hinged luggage area cover and heated rear window are just part of the deluxe standard package on the Nissan Micra S.

Visit your nearest dealer today and take a closer look at the Micra S.

At £4,995* it's an amazing little number in a big number of ways.

But then when it comes to giving you unbeatable value... Nissan know how.

NISSAN
know how.

NISSAN UK LIMITED, WORTHING SUSSEX

*PRICE EXCLUDES DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES.

*GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION TEST MPG L/100km MICRA 1.0S CONST 56mpg (90km/h) 56.5 (US) URBAN CYCLE 44.1 (US)

STOCK MARKET

P&O tumbles by 21p after Capel cuts profit forecast for next year

By MICHAEL CLARK, STOCK MARKET CORRESPONDENT

THE steady stream of profit downgrades by City analysts affecting leading companies has turned into a torrent.

The latest victim is P&O which has interests stretching from shipping to property development and housebuilding. Its share price tumbled 21p to 628p after James Capel, the broker, decided to reduce its profit forecast for next year to £21 million to £404 million.

Yasmin Harrison, an analyst, blames a fall in property sales and a sharp increase in interest charges. The house-building side also remains depressed.

She said: "The company has spent a lot of money on cruise and container ships lately and, in 1989, its debt repayments doubled because of its high gearing." But she is keeping to her forecast of £366 million for this year. Last year, the group made pre-tax profits of £376 million, including £22 million from the sale of its 8 per cent stake in Taylor Woodrow.

Miss Harrison added: "In the lead-up to the interim figures in September, the shares are a sell. There is more bad news to come before we see any upturn."

Capel's action follows a similar profit downgrade

this week, affecting P&O's rival, Trafalgar House, down another 3p to 302p.

The rest of the equity market lost ground throughout the day on lack of interest. Last night's World Cup semi-final between England and West Germany took its toll with many investors and traders departing early to see the match on television.

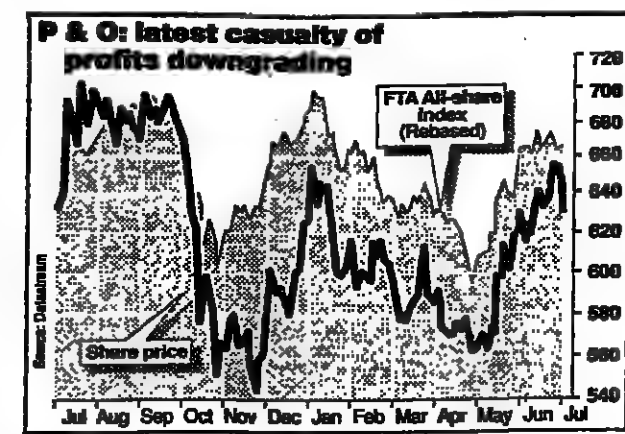
The FT-SE 100 index finished 16.2 down at 2,355.5, having been 19 points lower at one stage. The narrower FT index of 30 shares slipped 13.6 to 1,881.1 on a turnover of 353 million shares.

Government securities

Full-year figures today from Tiphook, the container and trailer rental group, should show pre-tax profits up from £18 million to £32 million. County NatWest is looking for £77 million this year, helped by a fall in the contribution from the Sealink acquisition. The shares rose 1p to 536p.

never recovered from an opening mark-down and ended only 1/4 higher at the longer end.

The pound's strength against most of its main rivals has started to cause concern among brokers. They are wor-



ried that translation costs will hit the profits of the big exporters, which also rely on a favourable exchange rate to remain competitive. Falls were recorded in Glaxo, 12p to 815p, ICI, 7p to £114.5, Wellcome, 5p to 606p, BAT Industries, 5p to 639p, and Unilever, 13p to 697p.

RTZ, the last of the independent mining finance houses, fell 22p to 541p on the back of a profits downgrade by its own broker, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, and a rival, UBS Phillips & Drew. BZW has reduced its estimate for the current year by £40 million to £550 million. BZW blames a weak copper price, currency fluctuations and a disappointing performance from its Canadian and South African titanium dioxide operations.

Christies International, the fine art auctioneer, fell 5p to 368p despite the news that Michael Ashcroft's ADT had topped up its holding with the purchase of 100,000 shares. This takes ADT's holding in Christies to 34.6 million shares, or 20 per cent.

Meanwhile, Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand businessman, has been lifting his share in BSG International. He has bought 1 million shares, raising his holding to 45.3 million shares, or 22.09 per cent. The BSG price slid 4p to 444p.

Shares in Parkfield, the troubled film services and video rentals group, continued

to fluctuate with the price tumbling 20p to 69p. Dealers are now worried that the sale of some subsidiaries to cut debts may fail to raise the necessary cash. A couple of weeks ago, the group issued a warning that profits were likely to be disappointing and analysts cut their forecasts from £34 million to £20 million last time. The price tumbled from the 346p level, briefly touching a low of 49p.

One of the few bright spots on a dull day was Midland Bank, up 6p to 305p, after a buy recommendation from County NatWest WoodMac. County is urging its clients to

Allied-Lyons fell 6p to 498p on reports that, during talks with Jarvis Hotels about the sale of its Embassy hotels, the price had been reduced from £202 million to £175 million. Confirmation that the value of hotel rooms has started to decline is also likely to upset Ladbroke, down 5p to 326p.

buy the shares ahead of the expected merger with its biggest shareholder Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

County is forecasting an offer for Midland of 370p a share - providing it moves soon - and an improvement

on last year's losses of £261 million. It is predicting pre-tax profits of £385 million for the current year.

The rest of the clearers spent a mixed day with Barclays losing 2p to 387p, Lloyds firming 1p to 281p and National Westminster closing all-square at 320p. The sector has been under a cloud recently following a series of downgrades by analysts who are worried about growing provisions for bad debts.

Mid Kent Water held steady at 200p despite the government's order to Compagnie Generale des Eaux, the French conglomerate, to reduce its 29.9 per cent stake to 19.9 per cent.

WORLD MARKETS

Frankfurt shares continue to rise with 18-point leap

Frankfurt SHARES continued their upward trend, closing 18 points higher after a small consolidation on Tuesday. The DAX index closed 18.90 points higher at 1,925.13. The DAX has now risen by 45 points, or 2.4 per cent, from Friday's close. Dealers said sentiment was still positive.

The return of foreign buyers had rekindled hopes that prices will continue to rise to late-March's record levels. One said: "The mood is still upwards to 2,000 (on the DAX)."

Good news from East Germany after the weekend start of monetary union breathed life into the market. Confidence has grown amid signs that East Germans have not, so far, gone on a spending spree with their new German marks.

The markets had feared that irresponsible spending would force up West German inflation.

Dealers expect share prices to continue to rise in the short-term, noting there would probably be some consolidation before prices approach record levels again.

Among financial stocks, Dresdner Bank rose sharply, gaining DM15 to DM449.50.

Dealers said unconfirmed reports that a warrant would soon be issued on Dresdner shares helped to boost the stock. Elsewhere in the sector, Deutsche Bank rose DM10.50 to DM818.50.

Daimler closed DM5.00 higher at DM863.00. The company said it expects operating results to be satisfactory by 1992. Siemens closed DM9.80 higher at DM772.50.

Shanghai closed higher on the yen's rise against the dollar. The Nikkei average was up 31.32 points, or 0.10 per cent, to 32,445.92.

● Sydney - The market finished higher on good volume with most big stocks strongly sought. The All-Ordinaries index leapt 28.3 points, or nearly 2 per cent, to 1,541.1.

● Hong Kong - The blue-chip index rose on optimistic sentiment that overpowered profit-taking and consolidation in the mid-morning. The Hang Seng index rose 6.94 to 3,363.49 and the broader-based Hong Kong index 4.68 to 2,208.55.

● Singapore - Prices were broadly weaker in lacklustre trading, but the Straits Times industrial index ended 3.90 higher at 1,528.25, helped by two-digit gains in some index stocks. (Reuters)

Wall Street was closed yesterday for the Independence Day holiday.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Option	Call	Put	Option	Call	Put
ABD Lyon	490 43 67 79 2 8 13	490 43 67 79 2 8 13	Phillips	230 11 22 27 6 11 13	230 11 22 27 6 11 13
AGF	500 12 38 50 11 22 27	500 12 38 50 11 22 27	Poly Tech	382 21 40 46 2 4 4	382 21 40 46 2 4 4
ASDA	110 9 13 19 3 6 9	110 9 13 19 3 6 9	Prudential	418 31 51 56 3 3 3	418 31 51 56 3 3 3
BSA	130 2 8 14 1 11 13	130 2 8 14 1 11 13	RAC	429 13 24 29 1 1 1	429 13 24 29 1 1 1
BSE	1000 10 42 180 2 5 18	1000 10 42 180 2 5 18	RAT	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1050 54 97 124 5 18 14	1050 54 97 124 5 18 14	RTZ	220 15 33 3 8 8	220 15 33 3 8 8
BSEI	1100 18 36 30 3 7 12	1100 18 36 30 3 7 12	S&P	240 7 15 20 12 15 16	240 7 15 20 12 15 16
BSEI	1200 18 36 30 3 7 12	1200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1300 18 36 30 3 7 12	1300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1400 18 36 30 3 7 12	1400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1500 18 36 30 3 7 12	1500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1600 18 36 30 3 7 12	1600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1700 18 36 30 3 7 12	1700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1800 18 36 30 3 7 12	1800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	1900 18 36 30 3 7 12	1900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2000 18 36 30 3 7 12	2000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2100 18 36 30 3 7 12	2100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2200 18 36 30 3 7 12	2200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2300 18 36 30 3 7 12	2300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2400 18 36 30 3 7 12	2400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2500 18 36 30 3 7 12	2500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2600 18 36 30 3 7 12	2600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2700 18 36 30 3 7 12	2700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2800 18 36 30 3 7 12	2800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	2900 18 36 30 3 7 12	2900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3000 18 36 30 3 7 12	3000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3100 18 36 30 3 7 12	3100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3200 18 36 30 3 7 12	3200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3300 18 36 30 3 7 12	3300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3400 18 36 30 3 7 12	3400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3500 18 36 30 3 7 12	3500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3600 18 36 30 3 7 12	3600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3700 18 36 30 3 7 12	3700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3800 18 36 30 3 7 12	3800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	3900 18 36 30 3 7 12	3900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4000 18 36 30 3 7 12	4000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4100 18 36 30 3 7 12	4100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4200 18 36 30 3 7 12	4200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4300 18 36 30 3 7 12	4300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4400 18 36 30 3 7 12	4400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4500 18 36 30 3 7 12	4500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4600 18 36 30 3 7 12	4600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4700 18 36 30 3 7 12	4700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4800 18 36 30 3 7 12	4800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	4900 18 36 30 3 7 12	4900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5000 18 36 30 3 7 12	5000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5100 18 36 30 3 7 12	5100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5200 18 36 30 3 7 12	5200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5300 18 36 30 3 7 12	5300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5400 18 36 30 3 7 12	5400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5500 18 36 30 3 7 12	5500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5600 18 36 30 3 7 12	5600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5700 18 36 30 3 7 12	5700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5800 18 36 30 3 7 12	5800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	5900 18 36 30 3 7 12	5900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6000 18 36 30 3 7 12	6000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6100 18 36 30 3 7 12	6100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6200 18 36 30 3 7 12	6200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6300 18 36 30 3 7 12	6300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6400 18 36 30 3 7 12	6400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6500 18 36 30 3 7 12	6500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6600 18 36 30 3 7 12	6600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6700 18 36 30 3 7 12	6700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6800 18 36 30 3 7 12	6800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	6900 18 36 30 3 7 12	6900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7000 18 36 30 3 7 12	7000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7100 18 36 30 3 7 12	7100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7200 18 36 30 3 7 12	7200 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7300 18 36 30 3 7 12	7300 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7400 18 36 30 3 7 12	7400 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7500 18 36 30 3 7 12	7500 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7600 18 36 30 3 7 12	7600 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7700 18 36 30 3 7 12	7700 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7800 18 36 30 3 7 12	7800 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	7900 18 36 30 3 7 12	7900 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	8000 18 36 30 3 7 12	8000 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12
BSEI	8100 18 36 30 3 7 12	8100 18 36 30 3 7 12	Seaboard	200 14 24 32 7 10 12	200 14 24 32 7 10 12

As funds for
are cut and to
setbacks. **Pearce**
book which rev
and Soviet

The Cuban government has announced that it will send a team of 100 men to the American Southwest to help with the search for missing persons. The team will be led by a Cuban official and will be accompanied by a team of American officials. The team will be sent to the Southwest to help with the search for missing persons who were taken by the Cuban government during the 1960s. The team will be sent to the Southwest to help with the search for missing persons who were taken by the Cuban government during the 1960s. The team will be sent to the Southwest to help with the search for missing persons who were taken by the Cuban government during the 1960s.

[illegible]

the search for extraterrestrial life. Mars remains one of our planetary, and hence its importance because although it is dry today, it may have had an atmosphere of water at an earlier time. The question is: Is water the quintessential ingredient for the generation of life from non-living matter?

Water provides a fluid medium in which the molecules making blocks of life can slide again and again, say on the chemical highways that make up the busy business of life. The molecules of life exist in abundance on Mars, but unless they dissolved in water so that violent collisions could occur between each molecule and its neighbours, life cannot exist.

Conditions on Mars are too toxic to life than

Hi

Windows 3:
I must have taken it all of 30 minutes to become Windows 3 conversant. I shot in the arm for Windows 3. I have been so busy with a new piece of equipment that I haven't had time to write.

Windows 3:
It must have taken us all of 3
to become Windows 3. However,
real that in the arm for De
store the launch of W
(1992) have we been so imp
a new piece of software. T
seconds, let us give you a de

MORSE 78 Hz
17 Sps

● NATURE: MONKEYS TO THE RESCUE
● HEALTH: COFFEE AND WALKING TALL

The flight plans for a mission to Mars

As funds for Nasa's space programme are cut and two of its projects suffer setbacks, Pearce Wright looks at a new book which reveals plans for American and Soviet journeys to the stars

Troubles with the Hubble space telescope and the decision of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) to ground its shuttle fleet after a second shuttle sprang a mysterious hydrogen leak in pre-launch tests have struck at an inopportune moment for the space agency.

These incidents throw a question mark over Nasa's long-term programmes, such as other planned orbiting observatories and a voyage to the planet Mars.

Just before the calamities, the American Congress had shown doubts about Nasa's ambitions. Although the House of Representatives voted Nasa a 17 per cent budget increase, the allocation was \$820 million (£455 million) less than the White House had requested.

The appropriation specifically cut \$300 million (£166 million) of the research funds for the Moon-Mars project, involving a manned Mars mission by 2019, to which President Bush has committed his government.

Nevertheless, Nasa is still one of the fastest-growing agencies with a budget of \$14.3 billion.

The main budget casualty was a relatively small \$6.2 million programme for the search for extra-terrestrial intelligence (SETI). SETI was to use the latest electronic equipment to monitor any signals from outer space that might reveal the existence of other civilisations.

Almost 18 years have passed since Eugene Cernan, commander of the Apollo 17 mission, left a footprint on the lunar surface. The next time a human steps on the Moon, he or she could be there to build a lunar base intended as a staging post for a longer journey to Mars.

Dr Robert Jastrow, founder and for 20 years director of Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, believes men and women will leave Earth not just to explore the planets, but also eventually to travel beyond our solar system to other stars.

Dr Jastrow's latest book, *Journey to the Stars: Space Exploration Tomorrow and Beyond*, describes how people will explore the Universe and the possibilities of finding other intelligence. In this extract he looks at the plans for visiting Mars.

● In the search for extraterrestrial life, Mars stands out above all our planetary neighbours in importance because, although it is dry today, it seems to have had an abundance of water at an earlier time. Water is the quintessential ingredient for the emergence of life from non-living matter.

Water provides a fluid medium in which the molecular building blocks of life can collide, again and again, to carry on the chemical reactions that make up the ongoing business of life. The basic molecules of life may exist in abundance on a planet, but unless they are dissolved in water so that repeated collisions can occur between each molecule and its neighbours, life cannot evolve.

Conditions on Mars are far less hostile to life than on

Venus, although not as comfortable as on Earth. During most of the Martian year the climate is extremely cold and dry. It resembles the climate in the Antarctic desert, but is even more severe.

The atmosphere is very thin, the pressure on the ground being the same as the pressure in the Earth's atmosphere at a height of 10,000ft. The air on Mars consists mainly of carbon dioxide, as on Venus. However, the Martian blanket of carbon dioxide is too thin to produce much of a greenhouse effect.

In the summer of 1976 the US Viking project resulted in a spidery object dropping down on to the plains of Mars. The information sent back to the Earth by the automaton ignited a controversy that raged for a time and then subsided, but still smoulders. Did the automaton find evidence of life on Mars?

One experiment performed by the automaton seemed to say it did. The experiment tested the soil for the presence of Martian microbes, a simple form of life, but one whose presence would still give an affirmative answer to the question: Is the evolution of life so likely in the Cosmos that it could have occurred separately on two planets in one solar system?

The experiment seemed to be completely successful. The Martian soil exhaled radioactive carbon dioxide, just as soils do in test runs of the experiment back on Earth, when the soils contain microbes.

But other scientists disagreed. They pointed to another experiment performed by the automaton, which said with equal clarity that there was no life on Mars.

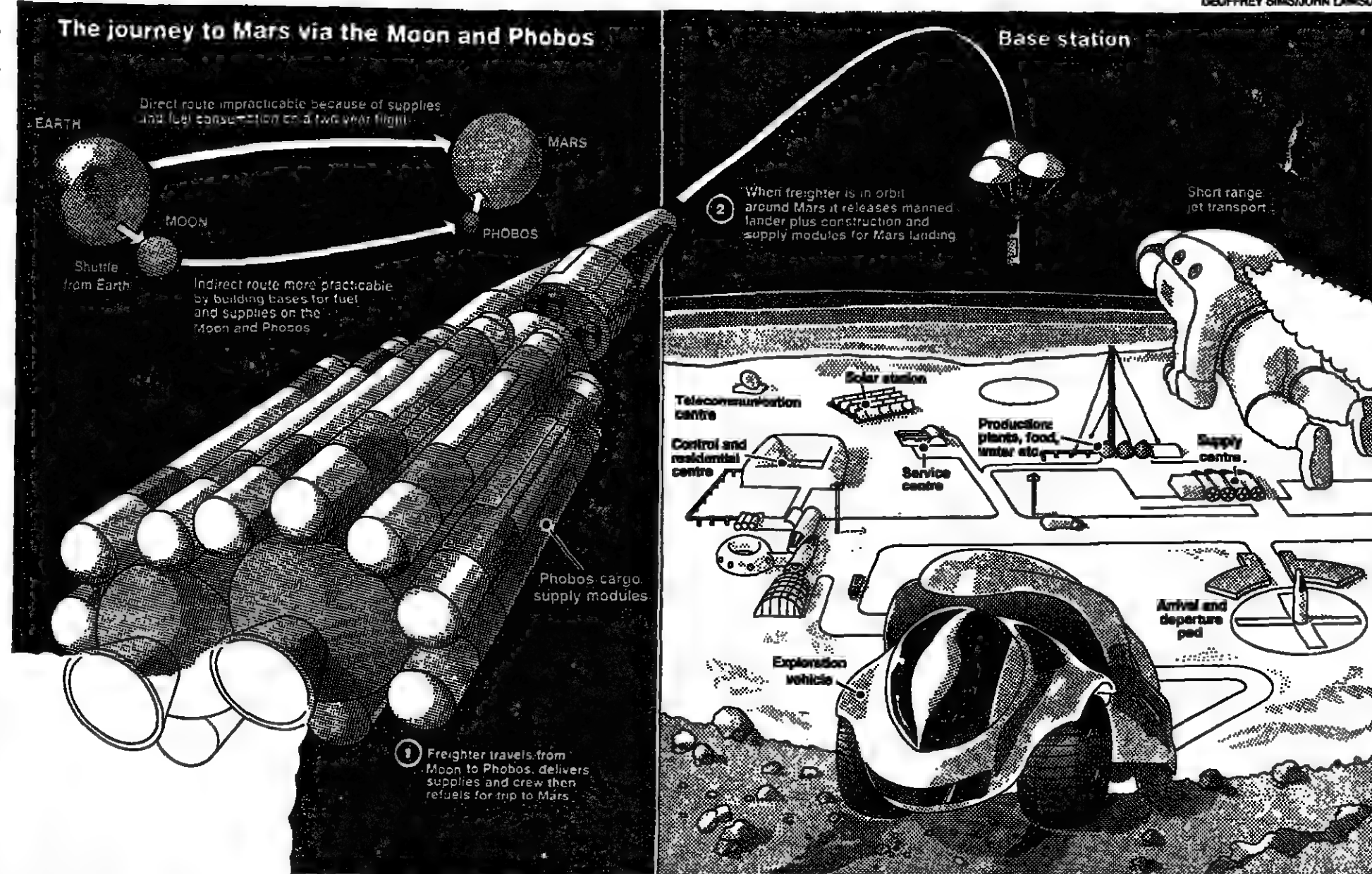
The second experiment did not search for life directly, but only for the molecular building blocks of life. These are known to chemists and biologists as organic molecules. If life existed on Mars, and even remotely resembled life on Earth, it would be made of these organic molecules.

Even if the soil contained only the remains of dead and decomposed organisms, they would still show up in this test. The results of the test for organic molecules were clear-cut. There were no organic molecules — no building blocks of life — in the Martian soil.

The United States and the Soviet Union have become exceedingly interested in all aspects of the exploration of Mars in recent years. Surprisingly, Phobos, one of the moons of Mars, comes first in Soviet plans before the landing on Mars itself. The reason for this is extraordinary: as much as 20 per cent of Phobos may consist of water.

Water is hard to come by in space. It is not needed primarily for drinking, because in a manned mission the crew's waste water can be recycled and purified until it is drinkable. Water is important in space mainly because it provides a powerful rocket fuel.

Of course, water itself will not burn in a rocket engine. But water is a compound of the two elements hydrogen and oxygen. If water is separated into these two gases, and the gases are then cooled and liquefied, the liquid hydrogen



and liquid oxygen that result make an excellent combination for propelling rockets — one of the best rocket fuels known.

A considerable amount of energy must be expended to break apart the water molecules and obtain the separate hydrogen and oxygen. However, the energy can be supplied by a small nuclear reactor. The nuclear reactor can be carried to Phobos on one of the first flights to the Martian moon. Once set up on the surface of Phobos, it will run for a very long time without additional fuel.

After the hydrogen and oxygen gases have been produced, they must be cooled and condensed into liquids. If they were left in the form of gases, they would occupy too much volume to be carried on board the rocket. But the same nuclear reactor that separates the water into hydrogen and oxygen can also supply the electricity needed to refrigerate the hydrogen and oxygen gases until they are liquefied.

Explorers of Mars gain a great advantage if they can pick up the fuel for their return trip — made from water in this way — at their destination, instead of carrying the fuel all the way from the Earth.

If a rocket ship starts out for Mars carrying the fuel it needs for the round trip, it pays a double penalty in weight.

The ship has to carry not only the fuel that will be burned on the return trip to the Earth from Mars; it must also carry the additional fuel needed to propel that cargo of fuel to rocket speeds when the ship leaves the Earth at the start of the voyage.

Refuelling at Phobos might cut the weight of a manned mission to Mars to half or a third of this amount, and make the trip less expensive.

It might seem at first that the water, and the rocket fuel that would be made from it, could be obtained on Mars without going to Phobos at all. Mars, after all, is also believed

to have a considerable amount of water in frozen form under the surface.

The disadvantage with that plan is that it is difficult to land on Mars and pick up the fuel, because of Mars's gravity. But the water and fuel will be much easier to obtain from Mars's moon, Phobos. The main ship has to use some fuel in slowing down as it approaches the vicinity of Mars and its moons; otherwise, it would hurdle past both Mars and Phobos and go on into space.

But once the ship has been slowed down enough to prevent that from happening, the next step — the actual landing on Phobos — is simple. Because Phobos is a tiny moon — 15 miles in its longest dimension, about the size of the island of Manhattan — the pull of its gravity is so weak that a spaceship does not have to use an appreciable amount of rocket fuel to slow down for a soft landing. It merely hovers over the surface, blowing gently on the ground below.

And because Phobos's gravity is so weak, it takes hardly any rocket power to blast off from the little moon again, after you have landed there and picked up fuel and water. Human power is sufficient; a person could leap off the surface of Phobos and go into space with one good running jump.

In fact, it would take less rocket fuel, and cost less, to bring water to our Moon from Phobos, than it would to bring that water directly up to the Moon from the Earth.

These interesting possibilities depend on the assumption that Phobos really contains a large amount of water. Planetary scientists think it does, because in some important respects Phobos resembles certain kinds of meteorites called carbonaceous chondrites — pieces of planetary matter from the asteroid belt — that have a water content of as much as 20 per cent.

Another indication of water on Phobos is a set of grooves in the surface of the moonlet that look like places where steam escaped following a collision between Phobos and an asteroid.

A visit to Phobos is high on the list of US and USSR priorities for future Mars missions. Meanwhile the USSR has firm plans for a series of visits to Mars itself, starting in the mid-1990s, when a Soviet spacecraft will drop into an orbit around the planet to become an artificial Martian satellite.

The spacecraft will reconnoitre Mars from orbit. It will also release a large balloon in the Martian atmosphere. Inflated with helium, the balloon will float in the thin air of Mars, rising to a height of about three miles during the day, and moving with the circulation of the winds.

A few years later, Soviet scientists plan to deposit a small, driverless automobile on the surface of Mars to wander over the Martian surface. The rover is likely to be a six-wheeled vehicle, with oversized tires for coping with the rough Mars terrain.

It will be steered by an electronic brain that has been instructed beforehand in the nature of the hazards that probably await it, and the best stratagems for surviving them.

These formidable hazards include a rock-strewn terrain and massive Martian dunes. If the small rover succeeds in meeting those challenges, a much larger Soviet rover will be deposited on the surface of Mars, capable of travelling hundreds of miles.

This rover will weigh three-quarters of a ton — about as much as a small automobile. It will also be an automaton, moving around and performing its scientific tasks under

the direction of an electronic brain.

However, the brain of the large rover will be charged with a new responsibility of the highest importance. It will attempt, for the first time, to collect samples of Martian soil from widely scattered locations, and send them back to the Earth for study.

That staggeringly difficult feat, if accomplished, will be a watershed event in the history of Mars exploration, for only then, at last, may the question of Martian life be settled.

Meanwhile, preparations for manned flights to Mars will be under way in the US and the USSR. The manned exploration of Mars may begin with a manned interplanetary loop around the planet and a return to the Earth without landing.

That tests the reliability of the spaceship on the long interplanetary journey, before

the space travellers contend with the additional complexities of the actual descent to the surface of the planet. The US followed this conservative, two-step plan in the Moon landing project.

If successful, the pioneering manned flight around Mars may be followed by a landing — the first landing of men and women on another planet — in the early decades of the 21st century.

But such a flight would mean a stay of perhaps two years away from the Earth for the crew of the mission. Manned flights in space of such long duration present special problems for human survival that may turn out to be insoluble.

● Extracted from *Journey to the Stars: Space Exploration Tomorrow and Beyond*, by Robert Jastrow, published by Bantam Press at £14.95.

© Robert Jastrow 1990

A YEAR'S WORTH OF TOP INVESTMENT ADVICE

With so many savings and investment products on the market, selecting the right one for you is becoming more and more difficult. You need expert independent advice to help you to make the right choices. You need:

WHAT INVESTMENT

What Investment magazine is written by the industry's leading experts in personal investments. It exists because people like you need help to make the best returns on your savings.

What Investment reports regularly on:
Unit Trusts, Investment Trusts, Stock Markets, Pensions,
Fixed Interest, Bonds, and
Best Building Society and Bank Account rates.

As a special introductory offer we are offering you more for less, with this coupon. Instead of the usual subscription of £22.60, we are offering 12 full issues for:

ONLY £15

I wish to subscribe to What Investment for one year (12 issues)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL NO: _____

I enclose a cheque for £15 sterling drawn on a UK bank account, made payable to Charterhouse Communications Ltd. OR: Please debit my Access ☐ VisaCard ☐ American Express ☐

CARD NO. _____ EXPIRY DATE _____

Complete coupon and return it to What Investment, FREEPOST, Boundary House, 91-93 Charterhouse St, London EC7B 1DS

Hi-tech businesses face barriers

BRITISH technology-based companies are at an almost impossible disadvantage compared with their American competitors because a complex combination of circumstances has severely constrained their development.

This is the finding of an 18-month study of the barriers facing small businesses, published by the Advisory Council for Science and Technology (Pearce Wright writes).

The conclusion from case studies of 34 small businesses, which should form the seed-bed of future larger companies, showed a number of barriers blocking potential growth.

The report, from a group chaired by Professor Stan

Lack of money and management skills are stifling growth by small enterprises, says a report calling for research capital

Metcalf, of the economics department at Manchester University, called for a £20 million to £60 million a year programme named Genesis for small businesses to compete for research and development contracts needed to fulfil the requirements of government agencies and to give improved access to public-sector research and development contracts.

Professor Metcalf says that the scheme has the short-term goal of rapid commercial development of technologies while at the same time strengthening the research abilities of small businesses.

A second venture, called an Accelerator programme, supported by £10 million a year from the Department of Trade and Industry, was proposed to make transitions involving large and risky investments in research and development and marketing.

The report says smaller British businesses with potential for development into larger-scale enterprises face three substantial barriers to their growth: lack of strategic skills among managers, an inadequate supply of external risk capital, and limited encouragement for the businesses to develop and expand.

The report says that smaller businesses of 50 to 500 employees play a vital role in translating new scientific and technological knowledge into economic wealth. They also provide the pool of companies

from which some of the leading international businesses of the future are expected to emerge.

Yet Britain's share of activity in this smaller businesses sector is apparently low by European standards and the pool of companies with prospects for high growth in Britain is shrinking.

The report identifies the difficult transitions that smaller businesses will have to make if they are to grow successfully and concludes that there is a need for government intervention to strengthen market processes where they are naturally weak or fail to operate.

Professor Metcalf says two-thirds of available venture capital in Britain is spent on management buyouts rather than invested in new processes and products.

He adds that the small enterprises generally fail to expand because they lack the necessary managerial skills and short-term to medium-term finance, and that the required management training is too often neglected.

● The Enterprise Challenge: Overcoming Barriers to Growth in Small Firms, HMSO, £8.90.

Windows 3: Worth the Wait.

It must have taken us all of 30 seconds to become Windows 3 converts. It is a real 'shot in the arm' for DOS users. Not since the launch of WordPerfect (1985) have we been so impressed by a new piece of software. The next time you have a spare 30 seconds, let us give you a demonstration. Available today, £99.

Microsoft

MORSE 78 High Holborn, London WC1. 071-631 0644
17 Sheep Lane, Mordlake SW14. 081-876 0040

Cotton-top clue to secret of life



Nature's answer? The rare cotton-top tamarin from Colombia

An endangered species of small South American monkey could be the key to understanding the human immune system. From captive populations of the cotton-top tamarin, *Saguinus oedipus*, Dr David Watkins, of the New England Regional Primate Research Center, Massachusetts, and his team have found secrets of the immune system that may shed light on the evolution of disease resistance in humans and other primates.

Dr Watkins and his colleagues have been studying a family of genes called the major histocompatibility complex (MHC).

These genes contain the instructions for proteins that sit on the membranes of cells and present foreign proteins to roving white blood cells for destruction.

In humans, the so-called "classical" class I MHC genes known as human leukocyte antigen A or HLA-A, as well as HLA-B and HLA-C, are extremely variable, so every individual has a personal MHC signature.

The variation in these MHC genes makes tissue-typing for organ transplantation difficult. But there are other class-I MHC genes that seem to operate differently.

The "non-classical" HLA-E, HLA-F and HLA-G genes are not as variable as the classical genes and their function in the human immune system, if any, is not clear.

The research shows that nearly all the class I MHC proteins in the cotton-top tamarin come from a single gene that is much more similar to the human HLA-G gene than the HLA-A, HLA-B or HLA-C genes. The remainder are remnants of HLA-F.

This means that the tamarin uses

A rare Colombian monkey may hold the key to fighting human disease, Henry Gee writes

what in human terms are non-classical genes for the classical immune recognition function. These results imply that the two groups of class I MHC genes — classical and non-classical — have not always been mutually exclusive, and their functions have changed during evolution.

The last common ancestor of humans and tamarins, perhaps 40 or 50 million years ago, may have had a version of HLA-G, HLA-F, and an ancestral classical gene that later differentiated into HLA-A, HLA-B and HLA-C.

During the development of humans, the classical gene became used for immune recognition at the expense of the others, but the reverse happened in the evolution of tamarins. "Non-classical" genes were pressed into service and the ancestral "classical" gene seems to have disappeared altogether.

It is interesting that, although there is enormous variation in the human MHC gene family, the tamarin MHC gene is remarkably uniform. Only 11 varieties were found in 79 unrelated tamarins.

So the variability of the human MHC system does not seem to be a prerequisite for its function. Nevertheless, tamarins are unusually sensitive to certain diseases, perhaps because their immune system does not have the flexibility that is

the hallmark of its human counterpart.

This may be one reason why tamarins are rare. The main reason for their rarity, however, must surely be the destruction of their habitat. Only about 300 cotton-top tamarins may still exist in north-west Colombia, an area of severe rainforest destruction.

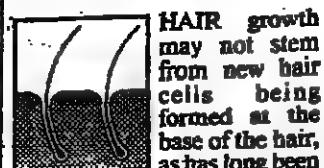
The species is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Cites), indicating that it is affected by an international trade that is also threatened with extinction, but efforts to conserve the population in captivity have been quite successful. There are now more than 1,500 cotton-top tamarins in research institutions, zoos and private collections.

The ten tamarin species in the genus *Saguinus* are confined to the shrinking Central and South American forests. *Saguinus bicolor* and *Saguinus leucopus* join the cotton-top in Appendix I of Cites. Tamarins, however, seem to be appearing as well as vanishing in a kind of revolving-door membership.

The golden lion tamarin, *Leontopithecus rosalia*, of southern Brazil, is one of the world's most critically endangered species of mammal, but is now joined by a new species, *Callisaurus*, the black-faced lion tamarin, whose discovery was announced only two weeks ago.

This species was discovered by two Brazilian researchers who were following up 19th-century reports of monkeys in the São Paulo area of southern Brazil, now one of the world's fastest-growing urban areas.

Root of the problem



HAIR growth may not stem from new hair cells being formed at the base of the hair, as has long been assumed, but from further up the hair follicle, just below the scalp. Until now it has been accepted that the cells governing hair growth must lie within the hair bulb, the shiny nodule seen at the bottom of a hair when pulled out. Researchers from Pennsylvania State University's school of medicine and the New York University Medical Center say experiments show that the crucial cells are fractions of a millimetre above the bulb, a long distance on the scale of a hair follicle. The findings, reported in the latest issue of the journal *Cell*, could have implications for the study of hair loss, hair regeneration and baldness.

Light and safe

AN AMERICAN company has developed a computer chip, powered by artificial light, which avoids the dangers of sparks, explosion or radio interference created by electrical wiring. A gallium arsenide semiconductor, announced by Varian Associates, of California, uses a light beam with about the power of a torch, which is converted into a one-volt to 12-volt supply over a fibre optic cable. The light is produced electrically, but Gary Virshup, Varian's senior engineer, says: "You can shield a light source a lot better than you can shield a long wire." The latest aircraft computer systems, which can be susceptible to radio frequency interference, and nuclear weapons, in which designers want to keep electrical impulses away from the warhead before detonation, may use the chip.

Slowing down

THE annual growth of the world's population, at present 5.3 billion, is expected to decrease from 1.7 per cent to 1 per cent by the year 2020. The United Nations population division says only 15 per cent of the world's inhabitants are likely to live in developed countries by 2015.

BRIEFING

compared with 23 per cent now. In the 1990s, women in developed countries will have children at the rate of 1.9 births each and life expectancy will average 74 years, while in less developed countries, women will have 3.9 births each and life expectancy will be 61, the division says.

Habitat threat

MORE THAN two-thirds of the world's fish catch breed in wetlands and 18 of Europe's 31 species of most endangered birds depend on them for survival. But many of the world's 488 protected marshes, tidal flats and mangrove swamps are being degraded by drainage, pollution and dams, says Simon Lister, of the World Wide Fund for Nature. They include areas in West Germany, Pakistan, Uruguay, South Africa, Jordan and Greece. The Coto Doñana area near Cadix in Spain, for example, is one of Europe's most important wildlife sanctuaries, but is being drained for strawberry growing and to supply water to tourist resorts. Mr Lister told an eight-day conference of scientists, ornithologists and government officials on ways to protect threatened wetlands.

Smart sleeping

PEOPLE on duty for long hours may be sharper if they take very short naps, says Claudio Stampi, of the Institute of Cardiac Physiology in Boston, Massachusetts. He says a three-week experiment with a volunteer limited to naps totalling less than three hours a day indicated that the approach might be particularly beneficial for emergency workers staying on duty for long periods. Mr Stampi says Leonardo da Vinci often had 15-minute naps every four hours to increase his productivity. An Italian actor, who emulated the Renaissance artist's sleep regime for six months, told Mr Stampi he ended up with a lot of spare time. "He said he only stopped after six months because he did not know what to do with all his free time, since he was not another Leonardo," Mr Stampi told the Association of Professional Sleep Societies in Minneapolis last week.

MATTHEW MAY

Our height may influence our risks of a heart attack, according to evidence from British and American researchers (Thomson Prentice writes). The findings, confirming a view held for many years by scientists, raise questions about childhood nutrition, adult lifestyle and body shape, and offer health tips to people of below average stature. Short women are more at risk than those of average height, while tall women seem to have added protection, doctors at Boston University's school of public health report in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. The conclusion supports the verdict of the long-term British Regional Heart Survey, funded largely by the British Heart Foundation. The survey, published last year, showed that males under 5ft 6in were almost twice as likely to have a heart attack as those over 5ft

Walk tall for good health

Two new surveys suggest that height is a factor in heart attacks

10in. When two groups of 1,500 men in Britain were studied for eight years, 118 of the shorter group had a heart attack, compared with 62 in the taller group.

Dr Julie Palmer and her colleagues in Boston compared 910 women aged under 65 who had survived a heart attack with 1,140 others of similar age and characteristics, who had not had an attack. They found women under 4ft 11in had a 50 per cent greater chance of an attack than those reaching the average of 5ft 4in.

Dr Palmer, however, is concerned that the results may be misinter-

preted. "The last thing I want is for short women to go into a panic about heart disease," she says.

The height element intrigues researchers on both sides of the Atlantic. They believe that, although smoking, diet and high blood pressure are probably the most important factors, the human body's dimensions have to be taken into account.

A simple explanation is offered by Dr Trudy Bush, associate professor of epidemiology at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene, Baltimore. "Smaller people have smaller arteries and the smaller the arteries, the

less junk it takes to clog them up, and the less it takes to have a heart attack," she says.

Dr Peter Wilson, associate director of a long-term study of heart disease in 10,000 people in Framingham, Massachusetts, suggests that shorter women may carry a higher percentage of body fat around their midriff. These "apple-shaped" women appear to be more prone to heart disease than the "pear-shaped" ones, who gain weight around the hips and thighs.

In London, Mary Walker, epidemiologist at the Royal Free Hospital medical school, and co-

director of the British Regional Heart Study, offers evidence to support another theory. "We found the relationship between heart disease and height in middle-aged men could be explained by the fact that shorter men tend to have worse lung function," she says. Reduced lung function and breathlessness have been linked with increased heart risks in previous studies, and could be a direct cause of heart attacks, she believes.

Factors in infancy and childhood which retard growth may also affect lung development, accounting for the associations between height and lung function later in life.

Mrs Walker says: "The latest findings confirm our view that it is much more important for shorter people to take care with the heart disease risk factors, such as smoking, diet and high blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels."

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

BE AT THE VERY HEART OF OUR BUSINESS SUCCESS

We have a very clear business objective - to be the principal retail financial services organisation in the Midlands.

In order to support our business plan we have developed a corporate Information Services strategy which has identified the need for new systems throughout the entire organisation.

Unsys B20/B30 based systems have been installed in our retail sales outlets. An X.25 Wide Area Network will be implemented by the end of this year. IBM AS/400 mid-range hardware and Citicorp International Comprehensive Banking System (ICBS) have been selected for our core business needs.

Priority departmental systems will run on PS/2s, AS/400 and Unix platforms. Our office automation approach is based on IBM's AS/400 Office for Head Office and Unsys OFIS for the branch sales outlets. Our information services strategy is being actioned by a team of professionals who are dedicated to the business development programme on which we have embarked. We now seek to make a number of further appointments to complement the existing team. All appointments will be based at our purpose built Head Office on the outskirts of Warwick.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MANAGERS

Salary package to £27k + car + relocation.

Reporting to the Manager of Information Services Development you will be responsible for the management of a number of projects. Experience of project control and a knowledge of structured development techniques are our main requirements. You will clearly need the ability to communicate in business terms with senior management as well as motivating and leading your own team of analysts/programmers.

Knowledge of the IBM mid-range environment would be useful as would experience in the Financial Services Sector.

The above positions carry the added benefit of a concessionary mortgage.

Apply in writing with full C.V. to
Sue Kennedy, Personnel Officer,
Heart of England Building Society,
20-26 Jury Street,
Warwick CV34 4ET.

Closing date for applications is July 20th 1990.

To us, you're No.1

Heart of England Building Society

Product Information Associate

To £17,000

Wellcome is an internationally renowned pharmaceutical group engaged in the research, development, manufacture and marketing of human healthcare products.

We are currently seeking to recruit within Medical Information in International Affairs for support of licensed business. The successful candidate will be responsible for:

- Providing scientific and clinical information support to Wellcome's international business.
- Preparing critical reviews of scientific literature relating to designated products and related clinical areas.
- Assisting in the preparation of clinical expert reports.
- Preparing and revising Group data sheets.
- Maintaining awareness of current knowledge in relation to the designated areas of Wellcome's business by internal, attending relevant scientific meetings and symposia.

Working to improve the world's health

- The Wellcome Foundation Ltd
- Major International Pharmaceutical Group
- Research Centre at Beckenham
- Annual turnover >£1,400m
- An Equal Opportunity Employer



Wellcome

Beckenham, Kent

Candidates should be qualified at least to graduate level in a biological science.

Previous experience in handling medical information would be relevant. However, skills in, and enthusiasm for, this type of work are of paramount importance. These will include an aptitude for reviewing scientific publications critically, abstracting reports intelligently and presenting data efficiently.

In addition to an attractive salary which is dependent upon age and experience, our generous benefits package includes 5 weeks holiday, life assurance, profit share and pension schemes, subsidised restaurant and first-class sports and social facilities.

Please send letters of application, giving details of academic achievements and career objectives, to Wendy Hamilton, MSJ Advertising, Recruitment Resources, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3TL, quoting reference WGH/NS/127

New Wave
expand the horizons of your engineering degree

Amerada-Hess is one of the fastest growing oil and gas exploration and production companies in the US. In addition to having a wide range of joint venture interests in the North Sea, the company operates 23 exploration blocks, the Vantors, Rob Roy and Hamish fields, and is in the process of developing the Scott field, one of the largest discoveries in recent years, plus two other fields.

We would like to meet ambitious Mining/Mechanical/Chemical Engineering and Earth Sciences graduates/MSc's to discuss outstanding careers within Petroleum Engineering and beyond.

The environment is young, challenging and exciting, offering excellent training in all the company's petroleum engineering activities and locations.

Competitive salaries are supported by a first class benefits package.

Contact us for further information and arrange an informal discussion. Write to Helen Williams, Personnel Department, Amerada Hess Limited, 2 Stephen Street, London W1P 1PL.

HESS
AMERADA HESS

هكزامن التحصيل

Coffee debate could drive you to drink

Coffee could well carry a health warning that says "Do not believe all you read". The results of the latest research in the current issue of the *Lancet* cautions that too much coffee is a cause of infertility.

The advice adds to the growing list of conflicting wisdom about this beverage which may or may not give you heart disease, may protect you from some cancers but may cause others, may lower your cholesterol level, unless it is decaffeinated in which case it may raise it, may be linked to diabetes in children and may stimulate sex drive and fertility.

All of these findings have been reported in recent months and have often been met with a chorus of criticism from researchers waving reports that came to opposite conclusions. Meanwhile, people continue to consume more than 1.5 billion cups of coffee each day around the world, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"There has been no sort of health move away from coffee at all," says Lawrence Eagles, a coffee analyst for London trader GNI. "The only trend is that there is a move toward higher-quality coffees."

Coffee remains one of the most studied food substances. More than 500 reports have been published over the past 40 years, but research is often criticised as being based on insect studies of population groups and their behaviour. Thus, at first glance, a link may seem obvious if people who drink lots of coffee suffer heart attacks, but such factors as diet, lifestyle, cigarette smoking and family history must also be considered.

"These studies can be very contradictory because they often use ill-prepared protocols [guidelines] and very bad control groups," says Dr Euan Paul, a consultant for General Foods and chairman of the Physiological Effects of Coffee (PEC) committee, a Europe-wide group of scientists who study the beverage.

PEC reviews all the research that is produced and has found no definitive proof that coffee is either good or bad for you, Dr Paul claims. In addition, laboratory animals given enough caffeine to equal 60 to 100 cups of coffee a day have shown no adverse effects.

"In general, whenever you find no adverse reaction to a chemical in animals, it is safe for humans," he says.

Dr Paul says one study that does seem to be valid concerned the method of preparing coffee. A Dutch report released last November found that coffee in which the boiling water and grounds are mixed directly can increase cholesterol levels by 10 per cent, compared with drinking filtered coffee or no coffee at all.

Scientists theorise that the interaction of boiling water and coffee could cause a chemical change that affects cholesterol. Coffee can contain as many as 500 naturally occurring chemicals, but most studies focus on caffeine, a mild stimulant that is also found in tea, chocolate and cola drinks.

Scientists say that when consumed to excess — say, 15 cups of coffee a day — caffeine can cause anxiety, irritability and an inability to concentrate. Scientists are less certain about more lasting physiological effects. A panel of scientists met under WHO auspices recently in Geneva to examine 24 different studies on coffee and cancer. They determined that coffee may protect against cancer of the colon and rectum and there is "limited evidence" that it may be related to cancer of the bladder.

A Boston University study last November on colon and rectal cancer found a 40 per cent lower risk among people who drink five or more cups a day.

A Norwegian study released in February concluded that middle-aged men who drink five or more cups of coffee a day may have a significantly increased risk of fatal heart disease. This study has come under attack because it was based in Scandinavia, where more coffee is consumed per capita than in any other region and where the preferred method of preparation is boiling.

A Finnish study just released, which found links between diabetes in children and mothers who were heavy coffee drinkers, was criticised for the same reasons. This report says Finland has the highest rate of coffee consumption and the highest incidence of diabetes in the world.

REUTERS

Chris Lewis looks at still-video photography, a new technology that marries photography and video.

When the camera lies



The car and house (left) were photographed with a still-video camera and the image transferred to a Macintosh computer where the car (right) was stretched on screen and an extra wheel added, the left hand side of the house extended and the tree in the background removed.

Technology has moved toward a goal that has been almost as illusory as the paperless office: the death of the silver image. For years technocrats have forecast the end of the photochemical process at the heart of traditional photography, and for years they have been wrong.

With the development of still-video photography, there has been an important advance towards the day when all images will be captured and stored in a universal electronic format.

Still-video photography is a cross between traditional photography and video. The camera looks and behaves as normal except that it is bulkier and heavier and incorporates a disc drive. This allows an operator to shoot up to 50 colour images on a two-inch floppy diskette.

The image data which is snapped by the still-video camera can be transmitted down a domestic telephone line and re-assembled, or it can be transferred to a personal computer using a still-video disc player. The image can then be used for a variety of purposes such as visualising a design.

Images can be retouched and separated into primary colours for printing, and printed out on an ordinary laser printer or loaded into a desk-top publishing package.

The application is so new that no-one has yet decided whether to call the user a camera operator or a photographer. They will use the skills of the latter and the technology of the former.

Still-video is not to be confused with a similar process called video grab. The principle behind video grab is that it enables a frame to be gathered from a continuous stream of images, whether from tape or live broadcast.

But is the still-video camera another technical solution looking for a problem? The colour version of the camera has already generated a great deal of interest among news agencies and newspapers.

Another major beneficiary of still-video will be the expanding desk-top publishing and graphics industry. A still-video camera can also be mounted on a rostrum and used for shooting artwork. The image file can then be loaded into a desk-top publishing system. This process is already in use, based on conventional desk-top scanners rather than still-video. The problem with scanners is that they are expensive, lack versatility and are tethered to the desk top.

A typical still-video application, if it became cheap enough, would be in estate agency work. The camera could be used to take colour video shots of a property which would then be shown either printed or displayed on screen to prospective clients. When integrated with the latest multimedia desk-top presentation packages, it will be possible for sophisticated video brochures to be tailored to a particular client. However, the combination of the high-tech picture retouching and low-tech estate agents' blarney may not necessarily be a giant leap forward for the home buyer.

This highlights the issue of copyright. Taking pictures from a television transmission — as in video grab — can infringe a number of copyrights, such as those pertaining to transmission and production. The 1988 Copyright Act, however, says that if sufficient creativity and originality is added to the image taken, the copyright is transferred. The increased power of the personal computer will make complex image retouching simple and copyright infringement a matter of argument.

Still-video cameras are still too expensive for a mass market, especially if the cost of a video printer is added. But prices are likely to fall and once they come within reach of the domestic market, home colour video systems may be produced which can print out family snaps and, with extra equipment, include the ability to manipulate images.

Nobody is suggesting this technology is superior to the traditional photographic process but it is improving and it is faster. Where no picture can be processed in time, still-video is certainly a reasonable compromise in certain situations, an acceptable quality for an acceptable price within the time available.

Probing about in the dark

motion of stars near the Sun. He found there was an amount of unseen matter, betrayed by its gravitational influence, roughly equal to what could be seen. Since Oort's time, this phenomenon has been found again and again.

Astronomers have measured the speed at which gas orbits galaxies and discovered that it moves too fast: there has to be more mass in the galaxy than can be seen. Close pairs of galaxies orbit around each other too

quickly: the galaxies must weigh several times more than would be guessed from the amount of light they produce.

All this may seem somewhat circumstantial evidence but, to astronomers, gravity is as tangible as light: they would rather assume something invisible is out there than that Isaac Newton's law of gravity is wrong. For many years Professor Sciama has championed the notion that the simplest idea should be assessed first, and his favourite has been that dark

matter could be neutrinos. The more fact that it is known to exist gives the neutrino an advantage over almost all other proposed solutions to the dark matter problem. If the neutrino has a mass, there is a good chance that it is also unstable, and after a long time disintegrates, producing an elementary quantity of light known as a photon.

Although these tell-tale photons are much easier to detect than the original neutrinos, they cannot be directly distinguished from the

floods of photons produced by stars.

The trick, which Professor Sciama attempts to find in his report in *Nature*, is to find a way of distinguishing the dark matter photons from the ones whose origin is entirely conventional.

What Professor Sciama needs is some evidence of a constant level of photon generation throughout the galaxy. He now intends to enlist the help of colleagues to search directly for the characteristic photons he predicts. If they find them, it will amount to the first specific evidence of a particular explanation of dark matter.

DAVID LINDLEY

© Nature News Service 1990

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Continued From Previous Page

SWIFT TECHNICAL
EUROPEAN SALES MANAGER
Based Surrey • Stereo-Mech
Equipment • Defence Industries
Knowledge of Languages: Ref: Sal
Neg. Ref: T1733

RESIDENT ENGINEER
Anglo - West Management Plc - Sal
Neg. Ref: T1732

MEDICAL RESEARCH TECHNICIAN
NE Surveys - Age 25+ - HNC
Physics/Maths - Sal: CHK - Ref: T1731

ASSISTANT BUILDING SURVEYOR
HNC - HND Building Construction/Quantity Surveying - Day
Experience - Ref: T1734

TECHNICAL AUTHOR
Surrey - Defence - Civil Supply
Exp. Sal: CHK - Ref: T1735

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER
Based W. Sussex - Familiar with
Anglo - West Management Plc - Sal
Neg. Ref: T1736

MANY OTHER
PERMANENT/SALARY
VACANCIES IN SOUTH EAST
SEND CV WITH SALARY
EXPECTATION, DESIRED
LOCATION AND DAY
TIME PHONE NO.

For further details contact
PETER ROBBINS
Telephone (0737) 222531

COVENTRY FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

SYSTEMS OFFICER

c £20,000 pa plus performance related pay

The NHS is undergoing major change, particularly in the area of Primary Health Care with its creation of the new Family Health Service Authorities. For a qualified Systems professional, this is one of the most challenging territories around.

Reporting to the General Manager, who himself has a strong Systems background, you will be required to:

meet the FHS's local Systems needs by linking with the NHS Software Development Team, streamline office procedures, and develop graphics solutions on micro to local measurement problems -

work with the fast-growing GP computer sector to facilitate computer system solutions at Doctors' premises to meet the needs for control of Practice budgets, indicative prescribing, and the reporting requirements of the new Contract -

participate with the Coventry District Information Team on the development of a District-wide database project, dynamically describing the health profile of Coventry, and linking to the Hospital Service's planning system.

These requirements are particular, but form part of a wider NHS Systems Plan designed to change the way in which Europe's biggest organisation manages its affairs.

Interested and looking for a challenge?

To apply, please send a current C.V. to Mrs A Raisbrook at Coventry FHS, 24 New Union Street, Coventry CV1 2HL.

Mid Devon

DISTRICT COUNCIL

SENIOR BUSINESS ANALYST

SO1/SO2/PO 1-4 (£14,160 to £17,271)

The post holder will be required to manage a team of analysts, and will be responsible to the IT Manager for the evaluation and implementation of IT oriented business solutions. Applicants should have a strong business interest and be good communicators, able to motivate people and co-ordinate projects.

Insurance & return leave air tickets.

Please apply in full confidence to:

Personnel Manager, METTOW (UK) LTD., Olympic House, 190 The Broadway, Wembley, London, SW19 1RY

Analyst

SCALE 5/6/SO1 (SCP 22-31) (£11,241 to £15,102)

The successful applicant will take responsibility for the detailed analysis of business requirements, designing and implementing appropriate solutions. Sound interpersonal and communication skills are required.

Analyst/Programmer

SCALE 1-5 (SCP 1-28) (£4,707 to £13,614)

Applicants will be required to design and develop applications on a variety of hardware. Experience of the PICK operating system would be advantageous.

These new posts offer excellent opportunities to join a small, expanding IT section, with multi-vendor hardware and a strategy geared to both departmental and central systems. Future projects include: Office Automation, Geographical Information and Financial Management. Specific supplier information and details are of less importance than adequate systems and project experience for the more senior posts.

For an informal discussion call Sue Smith on Extension 348.

Application Form and Job Description available from:

A M Blount

Personnel/Management Services Officer

25 Fidler Street

TIVERTON EXIS 6M

Telephone: (0864) 282295 Extension 918

CLOSING DATE: 18 JULY 1990.

Engineer

Security Systems

For Engineers with a minimum of 2 years experience in Intruder Alarms, CCTV, Access Control and Communications. This is an opportunity to join a team controlling and maintaining Security and Emergency Systems. You should have a thorough technical background and be capable of working to the requirements of BS/EN/BSA, BS/4747 and BS/5739 (Quality Assurance). We offer a salary of £15,100 plus BUPA, Pension and Company Vehicle.

If you're interested, telephone 081-881 4174 or forward a full C.V. to: Kenneth Stevens (London) 1022 463.

2 St. Michael's Terrace, London E22 4EL.

JPK Knowledge Engineers Limited

29 Church Street, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 4XS

Telephone: (0784) 450222

Telex: (0784) 469688

Loadplan Ltd

Field Service Engineers

ENag & Estate Car.

As part of the expansion of our U.K. Service operation, Loadplan are seeking Engineers to fill two new vacancies in our Service and Support Department.

The successful applicants will be expected to provide on-site support throughout the U.K. on a range of Automotive Diagnostic and Tape Duplication systems and Diagnostics. They will also be responsible for installing or servicing either PC and/or Data Communications Systems.

Ideal applicants should be aged between 20 and 30 and hold a BTEC Higher National Certificate in either Electronics or Communications Engineering. You will be self-motivated and have experience of installing or servicing either PC and/or Data Communications Systems.

For further information and an application form please write to: Peter Edgerley, Service Manager, Loadplan Ltd, Jubilee House, Townsend Lane, Kingsbury, London, NW9 8TZ or ring 081-200 7733. Closing date for applications is 18th July 1990. Loadplan is an equal opportunities employer.

NORTHERN MANPOWER SERVICES LTD

Nat-West Bldgs, Main Street, FRODSHAM, Cheshire, WA5 7AG

Tel 0928 35821 Fax 0928 33663 (AGY)

WATER TREATMENT RYADH - SAUDI ARABIA CHEMICAL SALES ENGINEERS

To sell speciality water treatment chemicals. Minimum 5 years experience in chemical sales is a must. Saudi Arabian exposure an asset.

Negotiable & attractive tax free salary plus quarterly bonus, free accommodation, car allowance, medical insurance & return leave air tickets.

Please apply in full confidence to:

Personnel Manager, METTOW (UK) LTD., Olympic House, 190 The Broadway, Wembley, London, SW19 1RY

Analyst

SCALE 5/6/SO1 (SCP 22-31) (£11,241 to £15,102)

The successful applicant will take responsibility for the detailed analysis of business requirements, designing and implementing appropriate solutions. Sound interpersonal and communication skills are required.

Analyst/Programmer

SCALE 1-5 (SCP 1-28) (£4,707 to £13,614)

Applicants will be required to design and develop applications on a variety of hardware. Experience of the PICK operating system would be advantageous.

These new posts offer excellent opportunities to join a small, expanding IT section, with multi-vendor hardware and a strategy geared to both departmental and central systems. Future projects include: Office Automation, Geographical Information and Financial Management. Specific supplier information and details are of less importance than adequate systems and project experience for the more senior posts.

For an informal discussion call Sue Smith on Extension 348.

Application Form and Job Description available from:

A M Blount

Personnel/Management Services Officer

25 Fidler Street

TIVERTON EXIS 6M

Telephone: (0864) 282295 Extension 918

CLOSING DATE: 18 JULY 1990.

Engineer

Security Systems

For Engineers with a minimum of 2 years experience in Intruder Alarms, CCTV, Access Control and Communications. This is an opportunity to join a team controlling and maintaining Security and Emergency Systems. You should have a thorough technical background and be capable of working to the requirements of BS/EN/BSA, BS/4747 and BS/5739 (Quality Assurance). We offer a salary of £15,100 plus BUPA, Pension and Company Vehicle.

If you're interested, telephone 081-881 4174 or forward a full C.V. to: Kenneth Stevens (London) 1022 463.

2 St. Michael's Terrace, London E22 4EL.

JPK Knowledge Engineers Limited

29 Church Street, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 4XS

Telephone: (0784) 450222

Telex: (0784) 469688

Loadplan Ltd

Field Service Engineers

ENag & Estate Car.

As part of the expansion of our U.K. Service operation, Loadplan are seeking Engineers to fill two new vacancies in our Service and Support Department.

The successful applicants will be expected to provide on-site support throughout the U.K. on a range of Automotive Diagnostic and Tape Duplication systems and Diagnostics. They will also be responsible for installing or servicing either PC and/or Data Communications Systems.

Ideal applicants should be aged between 20 and 30 and hold a BTEC Higher National Certificate in either Electronics or Communications Engineering. You will be self-motivated and have experience of installing or servicing either PC and/or Data Communications Systems.

For further information and an application form please write to: Peter Edgerley, Service Manager, Loadplan Ltd, Jubilee House, Townsend Lane, Kingsbury, London, NW9 8TZ or ring 081-200 7733. Closing date for applications is 18th July 1990. Loadplan is an equal opportunities employer.

NORTHERN MANPOWER SERVICES LTD

Nat-West Bldgs, Main Street, FRODSHAM, Cheshire, WA5 7AG

Tel 0928 35821 Fax 0928 33663 (AGY)

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from page 15

THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

1. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

2. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

3. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

SELCOPY Experience (Up to 16K)

Develop your expertise with us. We are a major user of SELCOPY & we need you to strengthen our team in order to implement the myriad of applications we are developing.

Excellent opportunity for a motivated individual with SELCOPY and JCL experience, working in an IBM DOS environment.

Experience in VOLLIE, DYNAMIT, CA-SORT an advantage but not essential.

JUNIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER required to train in all aspects of Customer Database File Processing and Report Processing experience required. Basic knowledge of SELCOPY an advantage.

Please send your C.V. to:

Ms Toni Cook, Recruitment & Training Co-Ordinator, International Software Group, Arcadian House, 60-62 St. Thomas Street, London SE1 3QU.

THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

1. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

2. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

3. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

4. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

5. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

6. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

7. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

8. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

9. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

10. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

11. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

12. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

13. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

14. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed as receivers of the assets of the following companies:

15. THE INDEMNITY ACT 1966

The Times analyses the great shoot-out issue at the World Cup

Penalties provide a dramatic test of nerve

Naples
AT ABOUT 11pm on Tuesday night in Italy, I realised that readers of this column over the last three weeks must be utterly confused about my knowledge of the game!

Having promoted Italy, for all kinds of reasons, as certain finalists and dismissed Argentina as fortunate even to qualify from their group, I watched Argentina hold Italy to a 1-1 draw after almost 130 minutes of football.

Argentina then had the audacity to floor me by winning the penalty shoot-out. Please do not ask me to explain this. Yet a number of other games I have witnessed

GRAHAM TAYLOR
ON THE WORLD CUP

throughout this competition have proved equally perplexing.

After winning their opening game against Argentina and losing to England last Sunday, the Cameroonians must surely be as confused as I am. Let me just run through a number of matches which have not just caused surprise, but in which palpably the better team lost.

Cameroon started it all off with their victory over Argentina on the first day. The following day Romania beat the Soviet Union after being outclassed in the first half. Costa Rica's win against Scotland and Egypt's draw with the Netherlands fudged the issue even further.

How could the United States lose by only a single goal to Italy? The Soviet Union and Sweden began as firm favourites to qualify for at least the quarter-finals, yet finished bottom of their groups. Belgium were the better team against Spain and then England, but lost both games.

Brazil must still be wondering how Argentina beat them,

while all Yugoslavia had to do was convert one more penalty to win against Carlos Bilardo's team. Cameroon embarrassed England, and the Republic of Ireland frightened the life out of Italy.

Mix all of these results with inconsistent refereeing, a system requiring a mathematics degree in order to determine where the four best third-placed teams in each of the six groups might or might not be playing in the second stage, and you have the perfect recipe for the unexpected. It is small wonder why I (and, I suspect, many others) am at my wits' end.

The penalty shoot-out adds

to the uncertainty. Some people might not agree with it being an acceptable way to determine the result of matches, but I am happy enough with the system.

During the course of a game, a team can be a victim of poor refereeing decisions, but at least with penalties the result does depend on some degree of footballing ability, as opposed to a third party, in the form of a referee or linesman, making a crucial mistake.

However, if FIFA is going to insist on shirts in, socks up, observation of the ten-yard rule at free kicks and yellow cards for deliberate handballs, then surely they should let us

better chance of saving the shot, as opposed to the risk of diving early, but the wrong way, and leaving the taker with an unguarded three-quarters of the goal at his mercy.

I contend that the penalties that have been saved in Italy have been down to poor shooting and poor interpretation of the laws, rather than to good goalkeeping.

To argue that the shoot-out would take too long if referees ordered kicks to be retaken leads only to the question as to why have shoot-outs in the first place, if the most crucial part of a drawn match is not going to be concluded within the laws of the game. While

the shoot-out adds excitement and tension, it creates confusion only if it is not held properly.

But, for me, confusion is what this World Cup has been about, and now the entire Italian population is equally mystified.

They had been led to believe there could only be one winner. How is Italy's defeat to be explained?

I suspect that room service and the offer of parmesan cheese on my pasta is now a thing of the past. There are more vexing matters weighing on the minds of Italian waiters.

Looking at the alternatives to shoot-outs

MY HEART goes out to Donadoni and Serena, of Italy, who innocently lost not a football match but a lottery; and with it the aspirations of a nation. But their single kick each at a ball, which failed, in a game-device superimposed to suit commercial circumstances rather than the sporting ethics of the world's foremost competition, demands that the governing body has an immediate rethink.

João Havelange, the president of FIFA, said to me two days ago that changes for the penalty-kick system for deciding drawn matches in the World Cup will be discussed before the finals of 1994 in the United States. For the moment, discussion will be too late to prevent the possible absurdity of this summer's final also being decided by penalties.

The system bears no relation, controversially, to the two hours of play that have preceded it. It would be ridiculous, for example, for the final to be determined by a player who had taken almost no part in the contest, as was so when David O'Leary, a late substitute, scored the critical penalty for the Republic of Ireland against Romania in the second round.

Italy stands in mourning, after the elimination of their widely fancied team by Argentina on penalties in Tuesday night's semi-final here, drawn 1-1 at the end of extra time. It was the third match to be decided in this most unsatisfactory way, the others being Ireland and that of Argentina against Yugoslavia in the quarter-final.

In each instance, the allegedly inferior team has won; though in the case of Ireland and of Argentina on Tuesday it could not be convincingly argued that the losers had dominated the legitimate period of play. In their most coherent performance so far, Argentina restricted the efficiency of Italy's supposedly superior midfield quartet, while throughout the 120 minutes' play Maradona had Italy's defence running scared.

Having missed a penalty in the shoot-out against Yugoslavia - Argentina won by two failures to three - Maradona hit the decisive kick on Tuesday. The men who quite unfairly carry the burden of Italy's loss are Donadoni and Serena. Schillaci, the tournament's leading scorer, did not attempt a penalty as he had strained a groin muscle during the match; critically, just after Italy had already introduced their two substitutes.

There are a number of alternatives to the penalty system. The most obvious and fairest reflection of the preceding play, to my mind, would be by a tally of corner kicks conceded within the goal area. By confining such a system to the goal area rather than the whole of the byline, frivolous corners deliberately gained near the corner flag off a defender's shin would be excluded. Within the goal area, attackers are concentrating on attempting to score.

Such a change would have the reverse effect of the penalties system, which encourages weaker teams to defend and waste time in the hope that they will be lucky in

the shoot-out. An aggregate of corners would encourage attack; it would also discourage goalkeepers and defenders from casually turning the ball round the post or over the bar when not under pressure, and would thereby raise the risk level of defenders' judgment during normal play.

Significantly, if there was any doubt about whether a defender was inside or outside the goal area when conceding a corner, there would be time to consult video-tape recording without delayed play.

Everything about such a system makes it preferable to penalties, which place an isolated and intolerable responsibility on individuals to an extent that, in certain instances in the past, it has psychologically damaged the rest of their career. In a football-besotted nation, Donadoni and Serena will live with the distorted image of their so-called failure in the eyes of the watching world, of their countrymen and of their families for the rest of their lives. It is a grave injustice of administration to place upon individuals this contrived stigma.

An additional criticism of the penalties system is that, at almost every kick, the goalkeeper moves against the law, before the ball is struck. It is impossible for the referee, standing to one side, to see simultaneously the kicker and the goalkeeper. He could only observe both actions if he were to stand behind the kicker; and then he would not be in a position to judge marginal instances of whether or not the ball crossed the line,



The shoot-out agony over, the ecstasy of reaching the final takes the field: Maradona offers a prayer while Bilardo, the coach, proffers thanks

though a linesman could do that.

Goycochea, the Argentina goalkeeper, moved early on both the kicks he saved, especially the second, demonstrating the system to be unfair in practice as well as in principle. It is ironic that Goycochea should become Argentina's most influential player after Pumpido broke his leg in the first round against the Soviet Union. Watching that match on television from Udine, where Spain had been playing South Korea in the afternoon, the Argentinian-born Alfredo Di

Stefano, always a pragmatic man, was heard to observe unsympathetically as Pumpido was carried off. "Argentina's luck has changed. Goycochea is the better goalkeeper."

If FIFA will not consider an aggregate of corners, it would be better to continue play, after extra time, on a sudden-death system until one side scores. Failing that, it would be preferable to determine the winner by the respective disciplinary records. On Tuesday night, Argentina would have lost on corners and on disciplinary record.

Havelange says: "These ideas are interesting, and we shall be considering them. It is up to the organising committee to decide what to do."

The inquest on Italy's failure will dwell on Vicini's selection. With hindsight, Italy's failure to win the match in normal time was based on two facts: Italy's inability to dominate midfield, and to pin down Maradona who, even unfat, was still the springboard of Argentina's threat.

Vicini will, frustratingly for him, be remembered for ultimate failure because, credit-

ably, he went for attack, contrary to the tradition of Italian football. He retained the midfield of De Agostini, De Napoli, Giannini and Donadoni, leaving the more physical Ancelotti, of Milan, on the bench; even when Giannini faded and was replaced by Baggio. Ancelotti, a hard man, would have put more bone in Italy's middle line against the uncompromising physical Argentinians.

It was probably a mistake, too, for Maradona to be marked alternately on right and left by Bergomi and Ferri. The switch-over in respon-

sibility, a common practice in zonal as opposed to man-for-man marking, allowed Maradona time to find space and repeatedly turn Italy's defence with immaculate probing passes that searched for Caniggia or the overlapping Burruchaga.

It might have been wiser to select Vierchowod, of Sampdoria, as a close marker, never to leave Maradona. But speculation is always wise after the event. The sad Vicini went for positive football and was punished by the hand of fortune.

THE PATH TO THE FINAL	
QUARTER-FINALS Sat June 30, Florence	SEMI-FINAL Tue July 3, Naples
ARGENTINA 0 YUGOSLAVIA 0 (see 5-0, Argentina won 5-0 on penalties) Att: 58,971	ARGENTINA 1 ITALY 1 (see 1-1, Argentina won 4-3 on penalties) Att: 58,978
Sat June 30, Rome	FINAL Sun July 8 (7pm) Rome
REP OF IRELAND 0 ITALY 1 Italy: Schillaci 38 Half-time: 0-1 Att: 73,303	ARGENTINA Scores
Sun July 1, Milan	3rd PLACE PLAY-OFF Sat July 7 (7pm) Bari
CZECHOSLOVAKIA 0 WEST GERMANY 1 West Germany: Matthäus (pen) 24 Half-time: 0-1 Att: 73,347	ITALY Scores
Sun July 1, Naples	EXTRA TIME Wed July 4, Turin
CAMEROON 2 ENGLAND 3 (see 2-2 after 90 min) Cameroon: Konde (pen) 82, Ekoka 86; England: Platt 25, Linaker (2 pens) 82, 105 Att: 58,203	WEST GERMANY ENGLAND

MATCH FACTS		
Result	ITALY	ARGENTINA
Total shots	11	11
On target	4	7
Last possession	84	86
Corners	7	4
Crosses from right	13	4
Crosses from left	10	8
Fouls	31	38
Offside	15	7
Cautions	1	5
Sendings off	0	1

OTHER STATISTICS:
Argentina won 4-3 on penalties: Italy: Barresi, Baggio, De Agostini, Donadoni (saved), Serena (saved); Argentina: Serrizuela, Burruchaga, Olarticochea, Maradona.
ITALY: Shots: 4 De Agostini; 3 Baggio; 1 De Napoli, Ferri, Schillaci, Vialli. Fouls committed: 5 De Napoli, Serena; 3 Ferri, Maldini, Schillaci; 2 Baggio, Barresi, Bergomi, Donadoni, Vialli; 1 De Agostini, Giannini. Cautions: Giannini. Fouls sustained: 9 Donadoni; 4 Vialli; 3 Maldini, Serena, Zenga; 2 Barresi, De Napoli, Schillaci; 1 Baggio, Bergomi, De Agostini, Giannini.
ARGENTINA: Shots: 4 Caniggia; 3 Olarticochea; 2 Burruchaga; 1 Maradona, Serrizuela. Fouls committed: 10 Ruggeri; 4 Caniggia, Olarticochea; 3 Basualdo, Batista, Giusti, Maradona, Trogic; 2 Burruchaga, Calderon; 1 Simón. Cautions: Batista, Caniggia, Giusti, Olarticochea, Ruggeri. Sendings-off: Giusti. Fouls sustained: 6 Maradona; 5 Burruchaga, Caniggia; 3 Basualdo, Ruggeri; 2 Serrizuela; 1 Calderon, Giusti, Olarticochea.

Argentina profit from shoot-outs

ARGENTINA have reached the World Cup final on the strength of winning two matches in the orthodox way and two on penalty shoot-outs beating Italy 4-3 on penalties on Tuesday and Yugoslavia 3-2 on penalties last Saturday. But would they have won if any of the other suggested methods of splitting teams level after extra time had been used?

The answer is a resounding no on all counts, whether the method of deciding the deadlock had been winning more corners, collecting fewer fouls, or conceding fewer fouls.

In the semi-final, Italy won seven corners to Argentina's four, had one player booked to Argentina's five, one of whom, Riccardo Giusti, was subsequently sent off, and committed 31 fouls to the 38 of Argentina.

Yugoslavia also had a better set of statistics in the quarter-final match. They gained seven corners to Argentina's five, had two players booked to four Argentinians - although Yugoslavia did have Relik Sabanadzovic sent off after first

being booked, and were penalised for 21 fouls to Argentina's 27.

Pat Bonner's save from Daniel Timofie and David O'Leary's conversion of the match-winning kick for the Republic of Ireland in their second-round penalty shoot-out with Romania may have gone into legend, but the match statistics ran against Ireland.

They were level in the matter of bookings with two apiece, but committed 27 fouls to Romania's 18.

Stealing first base in Cuban bastion

A FIVE-YEAR plan to popularise football is making its mark in the baseball citadel of Cuba. "There's no doubt about it, the World Cup is walking the streets, entering homes and taking over the street corners," the sports columnist, Gilberto Dihigo, wrote in the Cuban workers' newspaper, *Trabajadores*.

"What? You say you're not infected? Do you argue about the red and yellow cards, do you get frenetic when the referee blows offside, do you yell 'Gooooooool!' in a guttural scream that would make Tarzan proud? Yes? Then you've got it, the World Cup fever."

Football enjoyed a brief boom in Cuba in the 1930s when the Spanish-owned sugar mills fielded teams, and the country was invited to the 1938 World Cup in France.

The state-promoted plan to revive interest included buying the television rights for this and the next two World Cups, and importing coaches from Eastern Europe and South America. The target is the 1998 World Cup finals.

Salvatore Schillaci scored Italy's only goal in the seventeenth minute and Roberto Donadoni, who missed the fatal penalty, wears the No. 17 shirt.

Offer refused

ROGER Milla has said no to Walsall. Kenny Hibbit, the manager of the fourth division club, revealed yesterday that he had made an approach for the 38-year-old Cameroon forward through an agent after England beat Cameroon in the quarter-final. "We were the first English club to make an enquiry. Unfortunately, Milla has been made a very good offer in Italy," Hibbit said.



On the ball

AMONG the host of World Cup books on the shelves, now curing and going back round the edges like ageing lettuce, the most original is the *All Round World Cup Book*, published by Fantail Books. The only licence taken is that the book, rather than being round, looks like a punctured football - occasioned, presumably, by the need to prevent the copies rolling away.

Privateer

THERE is a World Cup supporter in London Underground's Northern Line communications headquarters. On Sunday, passengers read the West Germany v Czechoslovakia result on the system's service information indicator and last night, the "unofficial" newscaster was in action again with the England v West Germany semi-final score.

WALTER GAMMIE

When concentration is key, a coating of Vaseline Pure Petroleum Jelly can make all the difference. It protects arrous like shoulders, nipples and thighs from the soreness caused by rubbing kit. To give you more of a sporting chance.

HOW THEY QUALIFIED	
GROUP A	GROUP D
Italy 3, Czech 0, Austria 1, United States 0 Results: Italy 1, Austria 0, United States 0; Czech 0, Austria 1, United States 0; Czech 0, Austria 2, United States 1.	West Germany 3, Yugoslavia 1, Colombia 1, UAE 1 Results: UAE 0, Colombia 2, West Germany 4, Yugoslavia 1; Yugoslavia 1, Colombia 0, West Germany 5, UAE 1; West Germany 1, Colombia 1, Yugoslavia 0, UAE 1.
GROUP B	GROUP E
Cameroon 2, Romania 1, Argentina 1, Soviet Union 0 Results: Argentina 0, Cameroon 1; Romania 2, Soviet Union 0; Argentina 2, Soviet Union 0; Cameroon 1, Romania 1; Soviet Union 4.	Spain 3, Belgium 1, South Korea 1, Uruguay 1 Results: Belgium 2, South Korea 0; Uruguay 0, Spain 1; Belgium 3, Uruguay 1; Spain 0, Belgium 1; South Korea 0.
GROUP C	GROUP F
Brazil 3, Costa Rica 1, Sweden 0 Results: Brazil 2, Sweden 1; Scotland 0, Costa Rica 1; Brazil 1, Costa Rica 0; Sweden 1, Scotland 2; Brazil 1, Scotland 0; Sweden 1, Costa Rica 2.	England 3, Netherlands 1, Egypt 1, Republic of Ireland 0 Results: England 1, Republic of Ireland 1; Netherlands 1, Egypt 1; England 0, Netherlands 0; Republic of Ireland 0, Egypt 0; England 1, Egypt 1; Republic of Ireland 1, Netherlands 2.

Clouds gather over a Test cricket series upstaged by more dramatic events elsewhere

Good knight's last goodbye

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE melancholy sight of Edgbaston's giant cover, stretched like a grey mask across the rain-soaked ground yesterday, did nothing to dispel the notion that this summer's first Test match series is destined to join the list of great sporting non-events.

In World Cup year, there was always a chance that this brief encounter with New Zealand would fail to rivet the nation. In such persistently foul weather it would not even have registered but for the knight of Richard Hadlee. Now, if the weather forecast for the next few days is accurate, we can mark this down as a 0-0 draw with none of the knee-jerk tie-breaks and penalty shoot-outs employed in other arenas this week.

Birmingham certainly seems to be voting with its feet. Last year's Australia Test here brought in £670,000. Revenue for this game is barely at the £300,000 mark, still £150,000 below the Test and County Cricket Board's budget figure, despite an unprecedented amount of newspaper advertising.

Warwickshire, whose organisation of the big occasion is second to none, remain hopeful that Hadlee's last farewell, and the element of sudden death within this game, may keep the turnstiles busy if the sun decides to shine. But even their optimism does not stretch to the thought of

Edgbaston was a big chill in 1965

By SIMON WILDE

STRANGELY, New Zealand have played only their fifth Test match at Edgbaston, Birmingham, and the most recent of those was 25 years ago. Since then, their Test appearances in the Midlands have been confined to Nottingham. Conversely, on this tour they have found themselves asked to play Tests in both cities.

Both earlier matches, in 1958 and 1965, were played at a time when New Zealand were still searching for their first victory in this country, and were won easily by England. The surprising thing was that in the latter

Edgbaston teams

ENGLAND (from top): G A Gooch (captain), M A Atherton, A J Stewart, A J Lamb, R A Smith, N H Fairbrother, R C Russell, P A J DeFreitas, G C Small, E E Hemmings, D E Malcom, G C Lewis, A C Pierson, M C Snedden, D K Morrison.
NEW ZEALAND (from top): J G Wright (captain), T J Franklin, A J Jones, M D Crowe, M J Grevatt, K Rutherford, M W Priest, R Richardson, J G Bracewell, I D S Smith, A C Pierson, M C Snedden, D K Morrison.
Umpires: B J Meyer and J W Holder.

reading the "house full" signs.

The football may not be helping. Just the other day, on the morning after an England match, a senior policeman remarked that he had not known the roads so empty since the royal wedding. This might have stirred a few memories. For it was on the day that the Prince and Princess were tying the marital knot that county cricket attracted its biggest crowds for many a year. A wedding was an inducement to go to cricket; a World Cup appears to be a reason to stay at home.

Graham Gooch's players sent a good luck message to their football counterparts yesterday. And they even reorganised their pre-match routine to allow everyone to watch the game. A buffet was laid on, instead of the usual formal dinner, and all cricket talk was to be completed before kick-off time.

That talk will have included some debate on the balance of the attack, especially in view of the doubts surrounding DeFreitas. If he fails to re-

cover from the fever afflicting him yesterday, England could give Lewis his long-awaited debut. Alternatively, or even additionally, they could decide that Fraser's fitness is no longer in question and restore him to his rightful place as third seam bowler.

Micky Stewart, the manager, indicated last night that this was a serious possibility despite the original assertion that Fraser would not play. "He has another game under his belt now, which could change the situation. If he was brought into the 12, then certainly he could play, depending on the pitch conditions."

Fraser's return would give England an undoubted boost and, although Stewart would not be drawn on the prospect, it could well be that the selectors will nominate four quick bowlers and leave out Hemmings. On the other hand, a fit DeFreitas would allow England to retain the same side for the third consecutive Test, something they have not managed in a home series for 12 years.

As an antidote to England's mournful record of one win in 25 home Tests, it can be pointed out that Edgbaston is their favourite venue. Of 26 Tests on this ground, they have won 14 and lost only two, the first of which was against Australia in 1975, when Gooch made a "pair" on his debut.

New Zealand have not played here since 1965, when they lost by nine wickets. The salient factors of England's performance are worth recalling as they are unlikely to be repeated this week: a batsman was dropped for taking too long to score a century and a part-time leg-spin bowler took six wickets.

Bob Barber was the wicket-taker. He is a Lancastrian and an opening batsman, just like England's latest wrist spinner, but the chances of Atherton emulating the feat rather than dropping on Gooch being prepared to give him the ball.

It was the late Ken Barrington who lost his place, having scored 137 in seven hours 20 minutes. Trevor Franklin's century at Lord's ten days ago took a little longer.

TEST CAREER AVERAGES

England batting and fielding, avg 69.12									
	M	INO	R	100	50	CS	St	W	CS
M A Atherton	4	7	0	278	151	39.71	1	1	1
P A J DeFreitas	17	25	1	301	40	12.54	1	1	1
N H Fairbrother	7	1	0	3	0	3.88	0	1	1
G A Gooch	77	136	5	4874	198	37.11	3	31	77
E E Hemmings	13	18	4	253	53	16.41	0	1	1
A J Lamb	33	110	10	3671	137	36.11	11	13	4
D E Malcom	7	10	5	35	12	7.00	1	1	1
R C Russell	13	21	4	588	128	24.58	1	3	6
R A Smith	12	18	0	108	19	13.83	0	1	1
A C Pierson	14	26	4	1003	143	45.39	2	8	6
A J Stewart	6	11	1	283	54	25.30	0	1	1

New Zealanders - batting and fielding									
	M	INO	R	100	50	CS	St	W	CS
M C Snedden	11	1	0	501	123	62.82	1	5	5
A J Jones	9	14	3	650	121	59.09	1	5	5
K Rutherford	14	28	16	576	27	20.67	1	5	5
J G Wright	12	2	0	260	121	59.00	1	5	5
T J Franklin	7	8	3	144	40	48.00	1	5	5
R A Smith	11	1	0	80	103	47.14	1	5	5
R J Hurdle	4	0	0	183	90	45.75	1	5	5
J J Crowe	9	15	4	493	132	44.81	1	5	5
M W Priest	9	11	2	243	72	43.12	1	5	5
M Grevatt	12	1	0	361	85	34.53	1	5	5
S A Thompson	5	5	4	32	20	32.00	1	5	5
A C Pierson	6	0	0	63	24	27.75	1	5	5
I D S Smith	1	1	1	85	34	21.96	1	5	5
M C Snedden	2	2	1	15	13	7.50	1	5	5
C Pierson	6	0	0	6	0	6.00	1	5	5
D K Morrison	8	4	2	7	5	3.50	1	5	5
W Watson	2	1	1	17	7	17.75	1	5	5
J P Milford	2	1	1	2	2	2.00	1	5	5

England bowling									
	Balls	R	W	Avg	BB	5	10	15	20
M A Atherton	3550	1713	38	45.07	2-82	1	2	1	1
N H Fairbrother	17	25	1	30.1	0-1	0	0	0	0
G A Gooch	1895	647	14	46.21	2-88	1	1	1	1
E E Hemmings	2850	1071	19	56.36	3-53	1	1	1	1
A J Lamb	3310	1071	19	56.36	3-53	1	1	1	1
D E Malcom	1948	907	17	33.59	6-77	2	1	1	1
R C Russell	2829	1347	45	29.93	5-48	2	2	1	1
G C Small	2829	1347	45	29.93	5-48	2	2	1	1
G C Lewis	not played	not played	not played	not played	not played	not played	not played	not played	not played

New Road brought out the Bradman in White

SECOND XI CRICKET by SIMON WILDE

CRAIG White, who was born in Yorkshire but bred in Australia, gave a hint of the benefits of an upbringing outside the county's borders, when last week he produced the outstanding performance of the season.

Showing an almost Bradmanesque affinity for the New Road ground, White, aged 20, amassed 324 runs without being dismissed in a Rapid Cricketline championship match against Worcestershire. He scored 209 in the first innings and 115 in the second. Nevertheless, Yorkshire remain without a championship win this season.

Middlesex, the champions, are showing signs of a revival, having won for the second successive week. Jason Pooley scored 158 and John Carr 120 and 116 in their two-wicket win over Derbyshire at Watford. Town. Carr is the seventh batsman this season to score two hundreds in a match.

On a benign Hove pitch

Sussex were unable to get a scent of victory against Somerset, for whom Nick Pringle scored a fourth championship century of the season, and have now been overtaken at the top of the table by Nottinghamshire.

Another county pursuing the title are Lancashire, who, like Sussex, remain unbeaten. At Bristol, Gloucestershire never threatened to deprive them of that record but contrived to avoid defeat themselves. Lancashire enforced the follow-on after Peter Martin had returned the best championship figures of the season, seven for 31, but they were then held up by 172 from one of Gloucestershire's capped players, Romaines, and in a chase to make 152, fell three runs short.

Kent became the first side in this year's championship to win within two days when they defeated Glamorgan at Sittingbourne by eight wickets.

On a benign Hove pitch



No go: the University captains find shelter at Lord's prior to play's abandonment

Only Piper and Roebuck find joy

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

TAUNTON was the one dry spot on the circuit yesterday when hopes of play were abandoned at seven of the eight venues, including Lord's, the scene of the 145th University match. The Oxford and Cambridge players will be praying there is no repetition of 1988, when not a ball was bowled during the three days.

The Indian touring team, with their first Testa Trophy game only two weeks away, also drew a blank at Southampton, where they are to play Hampshire.

Somerset supporters, who have recovered accustomed to their side piling up big scores, saw them struggle for runs after they had been put in by Warwickshire, surprise championship contenders, when play began shortly before 3pm.

For a while it was business as usual with Cook, playing despite a badly bruised arm, threatening to make Warwickshire pay for giving him an early life line he

was missed in the slips off Donald. The guilty fieldsmen, Reeve, made amends by having him caught behind for 35 with the score on 77, leaving Roebuck as the lone stumbling block to the visiting pace bowlers.

Roebuck, responsible for none of the ten centuries scored by Somerset batsmen this season, was unbeaten with 75, his best score of the summer, when Somerset closed at 173 for six from 54 overs.

Four of their batsmen were caught by the wicketkeeper, Keith Piper, one of the brightest graduates of the Harrogate Cricket College.

Surrey have been told by the builders that the Ken Barrington Centre beneath their new stand at the Oval will not be ready in time for the official opening due to be performed by the Queen on August 1. The company, Eve Construction, says that the delay is due to problems beyond its control.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD

Britannic Assurance county championship	
Somerset v Warwick	
TAUNTON (first day of three; Warwickshire won test; Somerset have scored 173 for six from 54 overs)	
SOMERSET: First Innings	
S J Cook & P Piper to Reeve	35
P M Roebuck not out	75
W H D Jones & C Pierson to Reeve	25
C J Tavaré & P Piper to Benjamin	23
R J Hurdle lbw to Benjamin	23
M W Priest & P Piper to Benjamin	14
D E Malcom & P Piper to Donald	14
G A Gooch & P Piper to Donald	11
H D Smith & P Piper to Donald	11
Extras 10 (1 no 10)	11
Total (8 wts, 54 overs)	173
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-77, 2-87, 3-123, 4-145, 5-152, 6-173.	
WARWICKSHIRE: A J Jones, J D	

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL	
<p>NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cincinnati Reds 2, Montreal Expos 0; New York Mets 12, Houston Astros 6; Philadelphia Phillies 5, Atlanta Braves 1; Los Angeles Dodgers 2, Chicago Cubs 0; San Francisco Giants 1, Los Angeles Angels 0; Cleveland Indians 9, Seattle Mariners 4; Toronto Blue Jays 5, California Angels 2; Detroit Tigers 13, Chicago White Sox 7; Minnesota Twins 7, Boston Red Sox 3; Kansas City Royals 6, New York Yankees 0; St. Louis Cardinals 1, Milwaukee Brewers 0; Texas Rangers 7, Baltimore Orioles 2.</p>	
BOWLS	
<p>COUNTY MATCHES: Kent 150, Wiltshire 102; Middlesex 147, Hampshire 95.</p>	
CRICKET	
<p>RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Lancashire 201-7 (over 214-4) in 110 mins; Middlesex 177-1 (over 117-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 221-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Sussex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Lancashire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Middlesex 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Gloucestershire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Warwickshire 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Somerset 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Kent 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins; Surrey 217-9 (over 111-1) in 110 mins;</p>	

C
 O
 r
 v
 c
 u
 l
 f
 c
 r
 f
 a

 v
 h
 f
 t
 l
 s
 k
 c
 v
 l
 v
 o
 c
 r
 o

 n
 o
 a

 (S
 V
 F
 H
 Q
 S
 B

 I
 Y
 H
 A
 C

 V
 W
 A

 (T
 1
 E
 2
 T
 1
 S

 E
 c
 1

 S
 M
 H
 T
 S
 T
 H
 S
 N

 U
 19
 L
 b
 M
 H
 R
 C
 S
 L
 U
 L
 W
 S
 N

2½ Pts.....	£37,913-40	12 HOMES.....	£3,861-35
2 Pts.....	£19,658-75	6 AWAYS.....	£0-75
1½ Pts.....	£1,271-70		
1 Pts.....	£147-70	Above dividends to units of 1lb	
0½ Pts.....	£103-45	Expenses and Commission	
		15th June 1990—22-7%	
		All dividends subject to recovery.	

able Chance dividends to units of 1lb

FOR COUPONS PHONEFREE 0800 400 400—24HRS

Big three come through

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

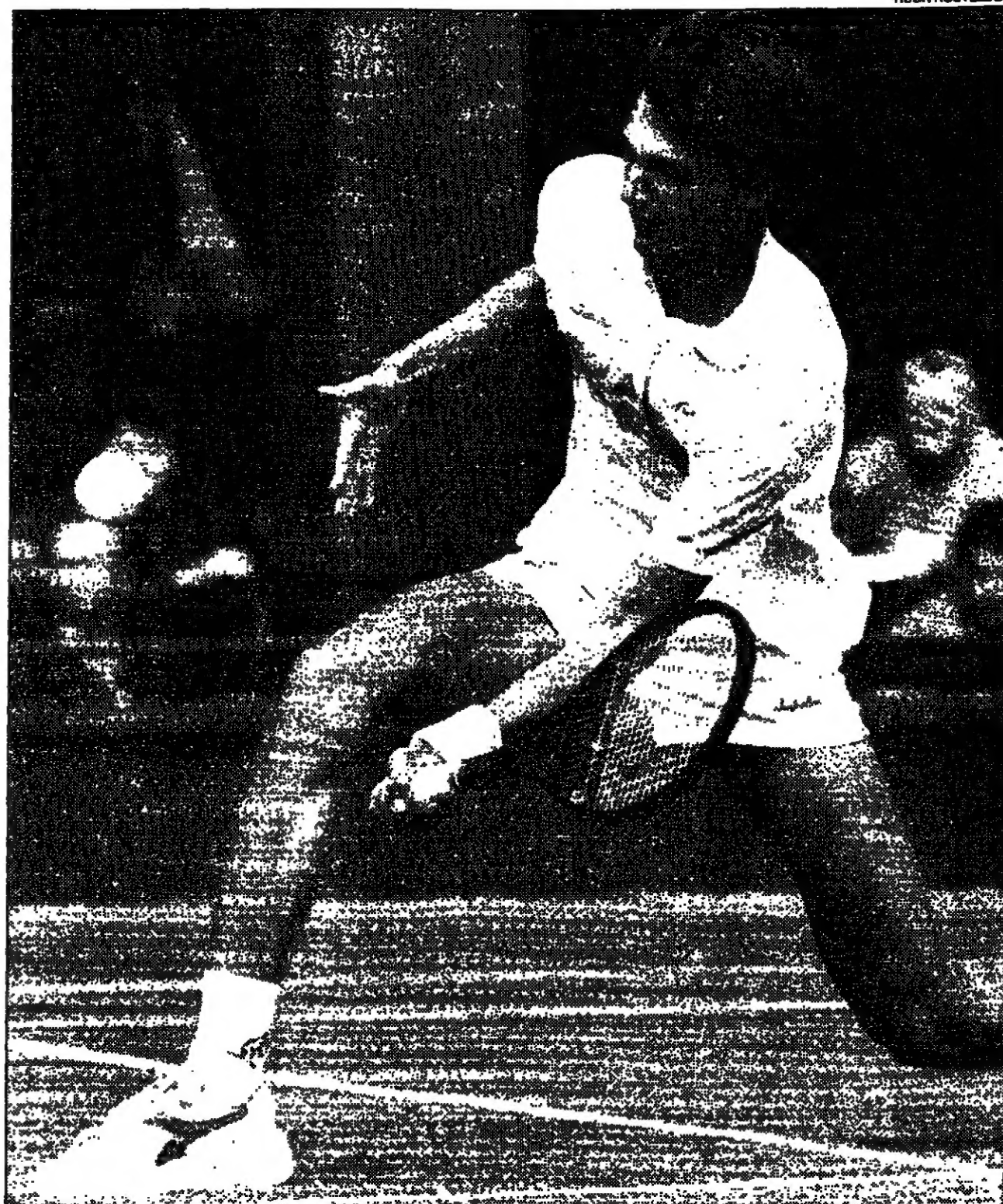
THE first rain of the fortnight disrupted the men's quarter-finals at Wimbledon yesterday. We had been lucky with the weather up to then, so there could be few complaints, except for those who had paid for centre court seats and travelled a long way to fill them.

The luckiest people were the holders of tickets for the No. 2 court, who were scheduled to watch a men's doubles quarter-final and were served up the defending champion, Boris Becker, against Brad Gilbert, and for court 14, where the match between Novotna and Sukova and Paz and Sanchez Vicario was magically transformed into an all-Swedish encounter between Stefan Edberg, the No. 3 seed, and his understudy, Christian Bergstrom, won in straight sets by Edberg.

Though officials were understandably anxious to finish the quarter-finals, which, traditionally, produce one of the longer days of the tennis year, there was a feeling that the World Cup semi-final might have cast a shadow over the decision. There was little other reason why Becker should have been relegated to court No. 2, nicknamed the Graveyard of Champions. (In Paris, you may remember, the centre court was dubbed *la cinquieme d'elephants* after it had claimed Becker and Edberg in the first round on the same afternoon).

Becker certainly had another appointment on his mind against Gilbert. On paper, he had the toughest match of the four, the glowering Gilbert not being the sort you want to meet down a dark alley at night, let alone under darkening skies and in blustery winds on a compressed outside court. Gilbert, the No. 7 seed and ranked six in the world, has been christened the Desperate Dan of the circuit because of his permanent five o'clock shadow (which was appropriately enough the starting time for the match) and his walk, which looks as if his shoes are just a size or two too big for his feet. He also takes every lost point as a personal insult, scouring the linesman and the crowd for a scapegoat and, if he doesn't find one, chastising himself endlessly. But he has made the most of what nature has given him, namely a cursed determination not to be beaten. Becker, who has lost four times in their seven matches, would testify to that.

If Gilbert had taken the chances offered to him in the first set he could have been 4-0 up after 15 minutes. He had three points to break Becker in his first two service games, but failed to convert any of them mainly because the champion kept his best serving and volleying for the vital occasion. Gilbert, who already looks as if he is put together with elastoplast, required



Fiercely fought: Ivanisevic volleys during his closely fought, five-set quarter-final tie against Curren

treatment for a thigh strain. A game later, he was broken by a Becker cross-court backhand, only to prove his resilience by returning the compliment in the next game, the break being completed with both men on the floor as Becker slipped at the net and Gilbert lunged desperately to make a backhand pass.

Surprisingly, that proved to be the beginning of the end. Becker simply wound his game up a notch and Gilbert fell to ceaseless self-castigation for a series of missed volleys. The No. 2 seed broke immediately to lead 4-3 in the first set, took that after half an hour and solidified on through cloud and even a brief ray of sun to a 6-4-6-1 victory. By the end, Becker had comfortably asserted his dominance



on grass and Gilbert had talked himself out. Lendl's interest in the World Cup had disappeared with Czechoslovakia in the previous round, so he had no outside distractions. His only problem was trying to pretend, as he had done the previous day, that Pearce, at 120 on the computer, the lowest ranked player to reach a Wimbledon quarter-final since Pat Cash received a wild card in 1986

when he was ranked 416, was a serious opponent.

The American had reached the fourth round by beating a Swede, a Japanese, a Czech and an Australian, so he was clearly not worried about national identity. As he comes from the small mountain town of Provo in America's Midwest, anywhere must seem like a long way away, even Connecticut, Lendl's adopted home. He is a dapper figure, a neat type who you might find on your doorstep selling insurance or religion. Provo is the home of the Osmond family and as there are plenty of them and quite a lot of Pearce, estimates suggest that the two families make up roughly half the population of the town.

After losing the first two

sets, the second despite taking a 4-1 lead, it seemed that Pearce was on his way home. But they clearly build them tough in Utah and he rallied to take the third set, before the No. 1 seed reassessed his authority to reach a mouth-watering semi-final against Edberg, 6-4, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4.

Strong presence

Indianapolis, Indiana (Reuters) — Three world record holders — the pole vaulter, Sergei Bubka, the long jumper, Galina Chistyakova, and the shot putter, Natalya Lisovskaya — will feature in the 91-member athletics team the Soviet Union is sending to the Goodwill Games, the Athletic Congress has announced. The games start on July 20 in Seattle, Washington.

Argentina's high price in reaching the final

NAPLES (Agencies) — As the dust settled on Argentina's win over Italy on Tuesday night, Carlos Bilardo, the Argentina coach, looked ahead to the World Cup final on Sunday and said: "My team is crumbling."

Argentina beat Italy 4-3 on penalties in Naples after their semi-final was level at 1-1 after extra time, but the victory was as costly as it was unexpected.

Ricardo Giusti was sent off after an off-the-ball clash with Roberto Baggio, of Italy, and will automatically be suspended for the final in Rome's Olympic stadium.

Julio Olarticoechea and Sergio Batista, like Giusti veterans of the 1986 World Cup-winning side in Mexico, picked up their second bookings and are ruled out. Claudio Caniggia, the forward, who headed the equaliser against the Italians, received a second yellow card for deliberate handball and will also miss the final.

"It's the biggest frustration of my life," Caniggia said. "Neither the goal nor anything can compensate."

Caniggia collected his first booking in Argentina's group B win against the Soviet Union on June 13. Vautrot had already warned Caniggia for deliberate handball.

"Batista, Giusti and Vasco [Olarticoechea] have already played in a final and they were champions," Caniggia said. "They're going to handle it differently. I don't even know if I'll be in the national team in four years time."

Giusti said: "These are things that happen in football. Whoever comes in will do a good job." At the age of 33, Giusti may have made his last

appearance for Argentina.

Giusti was nevertheless bitter at being sent off. He claimed Baggio took a dive. "The referee saw nothing, the linesman saw nothing," he said. "Because there was nothing to see. Baggio's an artist and he's got such an angelic face the referees always believe him."

Pedro Monzon or Pedro Troglio are the candidates to replace Giusti.

Olarticoechea, aged 31, said: "It's a pity to miss it because I was playing at my best." Gustavo Dezotti will probably replace Caniggia and Roberto Sensi should take over from Olarticoechea.

The loss of Caniggia, whose hard running has been Argentina's most potent threat in attack, will place even more pressure on Diego Maradona, the captain, and Jorge Burruchaga to reproduce their form in midfield against Italy.

Maradona, who had been cheered by the supporters in the San Paolo stadium in which he plays for the Italian champions, Napoli, said Argentina had finally reached top form.

"When we beat Brazil in the second round it was a miracle," he said. "Against Italy,

no way. We played at the same level as Italy and deserved to win. We passed the test."

Maradona said the Argentinians had found their road to the final much easier four years ago. "This is my last Cup, so I am giving it my all even though I am in pain," he said. "In 1986 we were more clear about ourselves and won all our matches. This has been a lot more suffering in getting to this final."

Bilardo, who aims to become only the second coach to guide a team to two Cup triumphs, said he was delighted with the way his team had improved during the tournament after losing their opening first round game to Cameroon. "The team has come together, little by little," he said.

But the Argentinians were almost as stunned as the Italians by Tuesday's result. "We haven't really realised the calibre of the team we are. We are still dumbfounded," Goycochea, the goalkeeper whose two penalty saves clinched the final place, said.

Playing only because the first-choice goalkeeper, Nery Pumpido, broke his leg in the opening round group game against the Soviet Union, Goycochea has proved to be an unlikely success story.

Goycochea, who is looking for a club after leaving the Colombian side, Millonarios, last season said: "Penalties are not my speciality though I work at them. Intuition more than luck is involved. I said before the Yugoslav penalties that I would save two so when the same thing happened against Italy my team-mates told me I had to do it again. I told them: 'no problem, I'll definitely stop at least one.'"

Maradona said: "Goycochea is not only good at saving penalties, he is an excellent goalkeeper."



Caniggia misses the final

New man opens in Budapest

BOBBY Robson's successor as the manager of England will have his international initiation against Hungary in an exhibition match in Budapest in September.

A month later England will play Poland at Wembley in the opening match of their European championship qualifying campaign, followed by a game against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin on November 14.

Graham Kelly, chief executive of the FA, confirmed yesterday that whatever happens in the next few days, Robson's eight-year reign is about to end.

"He has been an excellent manager for England, and he has enjoyed the fruits of his labours," Kelly said. "He has left England with honour. He will leave with our best wishes and our thanks. That's the situation; decisions have been made."

One decision that has not been reached is the amount of compensation that the FA will pay Aston Villa for the release of the England manager-elect, Graham Taylor.

Time is running short, with Robson's back-up team of Don Howe and Dave Sexton among those waiting to hear what is going on. Sexton, one of Robson's spies at the World Cup, and manager of the England B and Under-21 teams, is on an annual contract, while Howe, the Queen's Park Rangers coach, works on a match-by-match arrangement.

Until the financial negotiations between the FA and the Aston Villa chairman, Doug Ellis, are concluded they will not know if they have a role to play. "Hopefully the situation will be resolved when we have finished in Italy," Kelly said.

Italy faces up to a shattered dream

ROME (Reuters) — Italy fell into stunned and mournful silence as dreams of World Cup glory on home soil vanished after the cruel penalty shoot-out against Argentina.

There was a eerie emptiness in streets and piazzas which have thrived with the celebrations of flag-waving, horn-toting fans after Italy's victories earlier in the tournament. Bottles of sparkling wine were returned to refrigerators instead of being sprayed in triumph from balconies.

Instead of anticipated all-night revels, the country could only shake its head in collective disbelief, and dream of what might have been.

But there was no comfort and a headline in yesterday's *Tuttosport* newspaper read: "The Dream is Over." Azeglio Vicini, the Italy coach, said: "We can't hide this sadness at all costs against Czechoslovakia in the group stage when we had already mathematically qualified."

Vicini said: "Playing at home from some points of view was fatal for us. We had to always satisfy the public and win. We even had to win at all costs against Czechoslovakia in the group stage when we had already mathematically qualified."

"In reality, this meant we had to be on the attack all the time and spend a lot of energy."

Giulio Andreotti, the Italian prime minister, who watched the game from the VIP seats at the San Paolo Stadium in Naples, tried to put the best face on the defeat in the World Cup that his government has spent millions of pounds to host.

"There is sadness but a third or fourth place at the World Cup cannot be dismissed," Andreotti said. When asked if Italy made mistakes in their line-up, Andreotti replied: "Line-ups are like governments. The people judge them on their performance but the mistakes are made before then."

But the reserve goalkeeper, Stefano Tacconi, said: "We will go ahead with a smile on our faces knowing that we have convinced the country that we did our best."

Few Italians would disagree

Edberg holds all the trumps

By ALIX RAMSAY

STEFAN Edberg sped into the semi-finals yesterday, making light work of his fellow countryman Christian Bergstrom, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4. After only an hour and 35 minutes he was back in the locker room, pondering his semi-final appointment with Lendl.

Both Swedes are blond, but there the similarity ends. Edberg, 95 places further up the world ladder, is a serene player, with a calm style and fluidity.

Bergstrom, two years younger at 22, looked like an eager pupil taking on his master. In the first set he busied himself around the court striding around purposefully with his bow-legged gait.

He tried his full range of

shots. He mixed the returns, he tried his volleys and his passes, but after five games Edberg had his measure. Bergstrom had shown his hand and Edberg knew how to trump him.

At times Edberg made it look so easy. He served with authority, he volleyed with precision. Bergstrom was always rushed where Edberg had all the time in the world. If only Bergstrom could have found the time to plan his tactics, but Edberg was always three shots ahead of him. After losing the first set, he could find no answer to Edberg in the second.

However things changed in the third set. Both lost control of their service games. A little

luck, a lot of guts and Bergstrom broke Edberg for the first time. Unfortunately he lost his own serve four times.

Bergstrom has some excellent shots — his double-handed back hand return played with all his weight behind it in particular had Edberg perplexed from time to time. But he could never play consistently enough to trouble the No. 3 seed.

Edberg, hitting with more power and volleying more crisply as the game wore on, was always in control. A cry of frustration and a final flurry as Bergstrom held his serve in the penultimate game and it was all over.

Fraser stands by for his Test recall

ANGUS Fraser, the Middlesex seam bowler, is standing by to make his England comeback in today's final Cornhill Test match against New Zealand if Phillip DeFreitas fails to shake off a virus (Alan Lee writes).

DeFreitas missed the team's preparation in a wet and windy Birmingham yesterday after complaining of sickness and fever. He was examined by a doctor and confined to bed in the team hotel.

Fraser has not played for England since the Trinidad Test against West Indies in March. A rib muscle injury required prolonged rest and he has been slowly eased back into cricket by his county side.

Ian Smith, New Zealand's long-standing wicketkeeper, is doubtful with a hamstring strain.

Yorkshire will have an overseas player

By MARTIN SEARBY

CRAIG White, the Yorkshire-born cricketer, will be declared "non-English" following his selection yesterday for the Australia Under-21 team's tour of the West Indies.

White, aged 20, was born in Morley, West Yorkshire, but moved to Australia after his family emigrated 13 years ago. This season he returned to England after graduating from the Australian Cricket Academy in Adelaide and made an immediate impression on

However, as soon as he plays a first-class game for Australia on next month's tour, the Test and County Cricket Board will consider him an overseas player for registration purposes.

White, whose ten wickets at 24.20 make him Yorkshire's

most successful bowler this season, also had the distinction of making a double-hundred and a century in a second XI match against Worcestershire last week, and is clearly a player of some talent.

"I suppose I am an Aussie at heart because I left England when I was only seven years old," White said. "But I am proud to be a Yorkshireman and no one, not even the TCCB, can take that away from me."

"I hope in future I will be able to turn out for Victoria and Yorkshire in the respective summers and that will be a pretty nice life."

His father, Fred, who is coming to England hoping to see his son play for Yorkshire, will now have to be content with visiting relatives.

Thousands greet Cameroons

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP)

— More than 20,000 people, who were in jubilation mood despite a fierce rainstorm, jammed an airport yesterday to welcome home the Cameroon football team after its history-making performance in the World Cup.

"We're very happy to have done good work, and now it's necessary to prepare for the future," Roger Milla, aged 38, the last player off the plane, said.

Milla came out of retirement to score four goals as the Indomitable Lions, as they are known, became the first African team to reach the World Cup quarter-finals. He received a two-minute ovation at the international airport at Douala, the largest city in Cameroon.

The team is scheduled to fly into the capital, Yaounde, today, to be welcomed by government officials and then taken on a 12-mile parade in

jeeps escorted by police motorcycles.

The players are to be given free accommodation at a luxury Yaounde hotel, then make a tour of outlying provinces: the Sports and Youth Ministry said. Dozens of foreign journalists have arrived to cover the homecoming, one of the biggest media influxes ever in Cameroon.

The future of the team is uncertain, in part because the contract of their Soviet coach, Valeri Nepomniachtch, expires soon. Cameroon sports officials have declined to say whether the contract will be renewed, and there have been reports Nepomniachtch might return to the Soviet Union.

In the state-controlled media, commentators yesterday continued to question the officiating during Sunday

night's 3-2 extra-time loss to England, who scored two of their three goals from penalty kicks.

Many Cameroonians said their team was joined by a touchline official ordered a change of the ball near the end of the match, which Cameroon at one stage led, 2-1.

The *Cameroon Tribune* reported that a girl in Bangladesh hanged herself in despair after the elimination of Cameroon, which had won wide support throughout Africa and the Third World.

Radio Cameroon criticised the European and South American-dominated football establishment for trying to maintain a monopoly on the sport despite its strength in Africa.

"Nothing comes easily to Africa," the programme said.

Mortgage payments breakthrough!

NOT 15%
NOT 14%
NOT 13%

**12.95%
(APR 13.99%)**
Fixed for 18 months

This is not a deferred mortgage. It's fixed. Till 31st December 1991.

The rate of just 12.95% (APR 13.99%) means that, on a £100,000 mortgage, your monthly payments would be £108.83 lower than if you were paying current building society rates.

At the end of the fixed-rate period, your interest simply becomes variable, in line with normal home-loan rates. Or you can opt for another fixed rate.

With so many homeowners worried about high interest rates, we anticipate a huge demand for this plan. Immediate action is therefore essential.

ONLY £10 MILLION AVAILABLE. SO PHONE TODAY

071-930 7242

Open Sunday 10am till 4pm, weekdays 9am till 6pm.

Example: If you borrow £100,000 from a major building society and you are paying £1,182.00 per month with a Chase de Vere Fixed Rate mortgage, you can save £108.83 per month by switching to a 12.95% fixed rate mortgage. This figure is based on a 10% interest rate and a 25-year term. Your actual savings will depend on the interest rate you are currently paying and the rate you switch to. A written quotation is available on request.

**CHASE DE VERE
HOME LOANS PLC**

125 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EA

Licensed Credit Brokers

Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it.

Test preview, page 40